

Name

Agrostis stolonifera

Creeping Bent



Habitat/Range Found over a wide-range of habitats, on heavy or light, moist or dry soils, throughout the British Isles, from sea level to 945 m. It is a constituent of marshy grasslands, but also occurs in inundation and brackish communities, in upper saltmarsh and dune-slacks and other coastal sites as well as in mires, ditches and fringing various aquatic habitats. It can grow on a range of open and disturbed habitats, including post-industrial sites. This adaptable plant has evolved ecotypes that can tolerate contaminants, notably heavy metals.

Identification A stoloniferous perennial grass with distinctly tapering leaves, often with a blue-grey hue, spread along the often reddish stolons. Though not tufted this grass can form a close sward, but when in harsh or very wet conditions the stolons are very obvious, trailing over bare ground or open water. The ligule is longer and more pointed than in common bent and the much-branched, often reddish, panicle of very small spikelets remains quite tightly closed prior to full opening and then closing up again after flowering.



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TEP

