

Reed canary grass look alike

Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) may be confused with orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerate*) or bluejoint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*). All can grow to 5' tall and are found in moist to wet areas.



REED CANARY GRASS has pyramidal flowerheads (top) in late spring/early summer. The flowerhead closes up when mature (lower R). Its ligules are thin and transparent (circled, L). Stems are unbranched.

ORCHARD GRASS has florets from July-Sept. on stiff, wiry branches, with a lower branch that looks like a "thumb" (circled, top L). The ligule is often shredded at the tip (bottom). The base of the stems are flat.

BLUEJOINT GRASS has pyramidal flowerheads in July-Aug. (top) that close up into a plume that nods to one side when mature (bottom L). Ligule has a ragged edge; stems are branched.