



# UTAH POLLINATOR HABITAT PROGRAM

## Indian Ricegrass (*Orzopsis hymenoides*)



© 1995 Saint Mary's College of California



© Gary A. Monroe



© 2012 Jean Pawek

**Zone:** 3-9

**Color:** Yellow to green

**Bloom Time:** Late spring

**Plant Type:** Perennial grass

**Mature Height:** 1-2.5 ' tall

**Mature Spread:** 1-2 ' wide

**Water Use:** Low water

**Soil Type:** Dry, well-drained, sandy soils.

**Range and Native Habitat:** Indian Ricegrass occurs in all states in the mid-west and western United States from 2,000 to 10,000 feet. It grows in dry plains and mountainous habitats and in sagebrush, juniper, and ponderosa pine-dominated plant communities.

**Suggested Maintenance:** Avoid planting with aggressive grasses and forbs. It is moderately fast growing and short-lived but readily reseeds.

**Other:** Indian Ricegrass is drought, cold, and wind tolerant making it a great species for restoration, reclamation, and revegetation. As the name implies, it was a staple food for Native American peoples. It is the state grass of Utah and serves as a larval host plant for a number of skippers and the white-lined sphinx moth.

### Wildlife Supported



### Distribution Map



### Landscaping Information



**Sun**  
Full sun



**Water Needs**  
Low



**Summer Irrigation**  
Max 1x / month once established



**Soil Drainage**  
Fast



**Propagation**  
By seed