

Grasses and grass-like plants of Fort Laramie National Historic Site are the fabric of the landscape, from the driest ridges to the riverbottoms.

	Setting
Cattail Family (Typhaceae)	
____Narrowleaf cattail (<i>Typha angustifolia</i>)	river
____Broadleaf cattail (<i>Typha latifolia</i>)	river
Grass Family (Poaceae)	
____Indian ricegrass (<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i> ; <i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>)	plains, breaks
____Crested wheatgrass (<i>Agropyron cristatum</i> var. <i>cristatum</i> *)	plains
____Redtop (<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> *)	river
____Blue grama (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>)	plains, Fort
____Smooth brome (<i>Bromus inermis</i> var. <i>inermis</i> *)	plains, Fort
____Cheatgrass , Downy brome (<i>Bromus tectorum</i> *)	plains, Fort
____Buffalo grass (<i>Buchloe dactyloides</i>)	Fort, plains
____Prairie sandreed (<i>Calamovilfa longifolia</i>)	plains
____Rough barnyard grass (<i>Echinochloa muricata</i> var. <i>microstachya</i>)	river
____Quackgrass (<i>Elymus repens</i> *)	plains, river

	Setting
____Western wheatgrass (<i>Elymus smithii</i>)	plains
____Bluebunch wheatgrass (<i>Elymus spicatus</i>)	plains, breaks
____Needle-and-thread (<i>Hesperostipa comata</i> var. <i>comata</i>)	plains, Fort
____Junegrass (<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>)	plains, breaks
____Switchgrass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	river
____Reed canarygrass (<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> *)	river
____Common timothy (<i>Phleum pratense</i> *)	river
____Kentucky bluegrass (<i>Poa pratensis</i> *)	plains, Fort
____Sandberg bluegrass (<i>Poa secunda</i> var. <i>secunda</i>)	breaks
____Little bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> , <i>Andropogon scoparius</i>)	breaks, plains
____Prairie cordgrass (<i>Spartina pectinata</i>)	river
____Sand dropseed (<i>Sporobolus cryptandrus</i>)	plains
Rush Family (Juncaceae)	
____Baltic rush (<i>Juncus balticus</i> var. <i>montanus</i>)	river

	Setting
Sedge Family (Cyperaceae)	
____ Emory's sedge (<i>Carex emoryi</i>)	river
____ Threadleaf sedge (<i>Carex filifolia</i>)	plains
____ Woolly sedge (<i>Carex pellita</i> ; <i>Carex lanuginosa</i>)	river
____ Pennsylvania sedge (<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i> var. <i>digyna</i>)	breaks
____ Spike rush sedge (<i>Carex stenophylla</i>)	breaks, plains
____ Common spike rush (<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>)	river
____ Three-square (<i>Schoenoplectus pungens</i> var. <i>polyphyllus</i> , <i>Scirpus pungens</i>)	river
____ Softstem bulrush (<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani</i> , <i>Scirpus acutus</i>)	river

Most grass and grass-like plants on this list are native to Wyoming, *except* for those marked by an asterisk after their scientific names. Some of the introduced grasses like Common timothy were planted for hay, while other arrived without invitation.

Look for similar Fort Laramie National Historic Site
wildflower and tree checklists
or pick up a *complete* plant checklist

The illustration of Buffalo grass (*Buchloe dactyloides* – male plant) is reprinted from: USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Hitchcock, A.S. (rev. A. Chase). 1950. *Manual of the grasses of the United States*. USDA Miscellaneous Publication No. 200. Washington, DC.

FORT LARAMIE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

GRASS CHECKLIST



Buffalo grass carpets the Fort Laramie parade grounds,
a sod-forming grass with runners

Checklist prepared in 2009
For Fort Laramie National Historic Site