

***Poa secunda*** J. Presl subsp. ***secunda***, ONE-SIDED BLUE GRASS, PACIFIC BLUE GRASS. Perennial herb, not rhizomatous, fibrous-rooted, conspicuously cespitose forming a discrete bunchgrass, several–many-stemmed at base, with only several erect inflorescences, in range 18–60 cm tall; shoots with several basal leaves and cauline leaves, nodes short–50 mm long, glabrous. **Stems (culms):** cylindric, ca. 1 mm diameter, smooth; internodes hollow. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath; sheath closed for about 1/4, 20–175 mm long, narrowly membranous and scabrous on margins, veiny ridged and minutely scabrous along ridges, without lobes (auricles) at top; ligule oblong and obtuse to acuminate, to 5(–6) mm long, membranous and whitish semi-transparent, splitting; collar glabrous, sometimes scabrous; blade linear, 15–145 × 0.5–3 mm, the widest at midblade, flat or incurved to folded upward, entire and scabrous at least at base on margins, prowlike at tip, parallel-veined with midvein scabrous and raised on upper surface and smooth and slightly raised and convex on lower surface, scabrous on keel of tip. **Inflorescence:** spikelets, in terminal, open panicles, panicle lanceoloid to ovoid, 60–220(–250) × 10–55 mm, having to 14 helically alternate nodes and 1–5 lateral branches per node, spikelet with 2–8 florets (terminal floret sometimes diminutive), bracteate, glabrous, lacking awns; peduncle in range 195–370 mm long; rachis internodes glabrous and smooth at base to ascending-pubescent or minutely scabrous approaching tip; lateral branches ascending to suberect, 8–60(–80) mm long decreasing upward, commonly branching again into shorter axes, ultimate branches bearing 1–5 spikelets; stalk of spikelet 0.5–5.8 mm long. **Spikelet:** lanceolate compressed side-to-side, 3.8–12.3 mm long, when closed to 2.6 mm wide but spreading to 4.5 mm at anthesis, breaking above glumes and between florets; **glumes** 2, unequal, narrowly ovate, lower glume 2.5–3.8 mm long, convex, and 1–3-veined, upper glume 3–4.5 mm long and 3-veined; rachilla 0.7–1.2(–2) mm long; **lemma** lanceolate, 3.5–4.3(–6) mm long, rounded on back, and 5-veined, narrowly membranous on margins, greenish becoming dark purplish red, veins not converging at tip, glabrous or sometimes sparsely scabrous or with several curly hairs at base; callus with sparse, curly hairs at top; **palea** 3–3.3 mm long, 2-veined, 2-keeled, keels ciliate with stiff, upcurved hairs, membranous between keels and on margins, 2-toothed to ± 3-toothed at tip. **Flower:** bisexual; **perianth (lodicules)** 2, mitten-shaped or unequally 2-lobed, 0.6–1.2 mm long, whitish transparent but pale yellowish green at swollen base; **stamens** 3; filaments threadlike, 1.5–2.2 mm long, green; anthers dorsifixed, dithecal, 1.4–2.2(–3) mm long, yellowish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid to obovoid, 0.5–1.2 mm long, light green, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; styles 2, 0.8–2 mm long, the axes stigmatic, whitish, and kinky. **Fruit:** achene (caryopsis). Late January–late April.

Native. Perennial bunchgrass occurring throughout the range in relatively undisturbed native vegetation, especially on slopes of chaparral and coastal sage scrub. *Poa secunda* has over the years been treated by a set of other names, and is a complicated taxon because there are several forms and subspecies. Moreover, this plant can also hybridize with the lawn grass *P. pratensis* L (KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS). Two subspecies may occur in range: subsp. *secunda* and subsp. *juncifolia* (Scribn.) Soreng. Subspecies *juncifolia* has glabrous lemmas and ligules less than two millimeters long, which fits some, perhaps most, of our

materials, so more detailed studies are required to sort out the populational differences within range.

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