COUCHGRASS/ QUACKGRASS

_Elytrigia repens_ (L.) Desv. ex Nevski

(=Agropyron repens (L.) Beauv.) (=_Elymus repens_ (L.) Gould subsp. repens)

Poaceae
**Family- Poaceae**

**COUCH GRASS (Agropyron repens (L.) Beauv.)**

Now *Elymus repens*

Also known as Quackgrass

**PRIMARY NOXIOUS WEED**

- **Size:** 8-9 mm; similar to slender wheatgrass.
- **Sinus:** U-shaped.
- **Rachilla:** Parallel-sided; does not protrude; no hair; but may have a stubby appearance.
- **Palea:** Smooth concave, or may have rib or upward fold running under rachilla; teeth coarse, wide at the base, far apart, sometimes hooked.
- **Callus:** Bald, shiny; occasionally a whisker at outside edge.
- **Lemma:** No hair; usually no awn, but occasionally a long awn; hump close to callus.

Other kinds difficult to separate:

- Slender Wheatgrass
- Western Wheatgrass

**Caryopsis:** nearly straight, parallel-sided, thick, distinctly lined on surface grooves on both sides, extending the full length of the caryopsis. Colour - brown, dark brown, deep red with purple, light brown. Prominent root shoot axis, raised embryo, csutellum margins - definite. Ridge on ventral side present, extending the full length of the caryopsis from csutellum to just below the apex.

(USDA Handbook 219)