

Fall Survey of Grasslands at Burwash, Ontario

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A survey of the grasslands that may be used for field competition exercises at Burwash, Ontario was performed on September 18, 2021. The objective of the survey was to locate occurrences of plants because some may be harmful to dogs. One resource chronicling these plants of concern, often referred to as “mean seeds” is located at the URL <http://www.meanseeds.com/resources/the-bad-grass-list/>.

Vascular plant species encountered in the grasslands were recorded and the list is provided (Table 1). A total of 23 species were observed within the fields during the September survey in 2021.

There were no occurrences of “mean seeds” observed within any of the fields surveyed.

Other plants that inhabit the fields are listed in the table and some may possibly be of concern to dog enthusiasts. This report attempts to inform the reader so that each individual can make his or her own decision regarding their participation in events held at the locations listed in the report. All dog owners, handlers, and participants should review the list of plants and endeavour to become educated with regard to “mean seeds” and make independent decisions regarding the safety of their animals. This report is descriptive in nature and neither its author nor the committee that commissioned it can guarantee the safety of any individual dog from harmful plants. It is impossible to certify any field as 100% clear of harmful plants; however, the providers of this report are confident that each field was surveyed and pertinent information regarding harmless plants is provided.

Table 1: Vascular plants found in the September 2021 survey of grasslands at Burwash, Ontario.

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Agropyron repens</i>	Quackgrass
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	Spreading dogbane
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Chokeberry
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Smooth brome
<i>Chamaenerium angustifolium</i>	Fireweed
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada thistle
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Bull thistle
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Orchard grass
<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i>	Flat-topped white aster
<i>Eutrochium purpureum</i>	Joe pye weed
<i>Fragaria sp.</i>	Strawberry
<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>	Orange hawkweed
<i>Phalaris canariensis</i>	Canary grass
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy grass
<i>Rubus sp.</i>	Raspberry
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock
<i>Salix sp.</i>	Willow
<i>Solidago sp.</i>	Goldenrod
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	Meadowsweet
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White clover
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Common mullein
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch