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## SLENDER FALSE BROME

*Brachypodium sylvaticum*  
Origin: Europe, Asia,  
North Africa

### INVASIVE RANKING, NYS

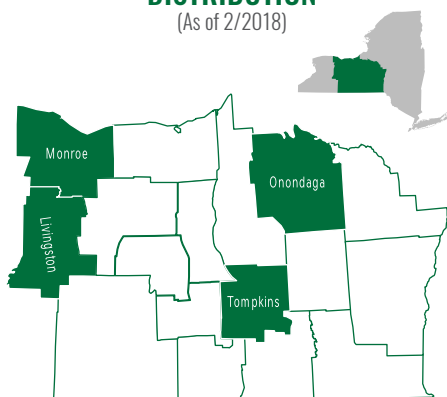
Very High

### MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Chemical  
Mechanical  
Physical  
Prevention

### DISTRIBUTION

(As of 2/2018)



[www.fingerlakesinvasives.org](http://www.fingerlakesinvasives.org)

This invasive, perennial grass forms distinctive bunches of broad, arching leaves up to 12 mm wide and 1 m tall. Foliage emerges early in the spring and remains bright yellow-green into the late fall. Slender false brome can be distinguished from most other grasses by its drooping flower spikes, which bloom June-September, and hair on lower stems and leaf veins.

### HABITAT

Slender false brome can tolerate a wide range of habitats, from shaded upland hardwood and conifer forests to full sun grasslands, but it is especially competitive in shaded or drought conditions.

### THREAT

Slender false brome emerges earlier than many native species in the spring and can outcompete and replace native vegetation, which decreases biodiversity and habitat quality. It can prevent tree seedling establishment and has little nutritional value for wildlife. This plant is self-fertilizing and can produce hundreds of seeds per plant.

### MANAGEMENT

Prevention is the best management option for uninfested sites. Cleaning hiking clothes, boots, management equipment, and recreational equipment between sites is critical to prevent spread. Hand removal in the spring before seed set can be effective for small populations. Mowing can prevent seed set if timed appropriately, but will not kill existing plants. Herbicides have been effective at controlling larger populations of slender false brome. Because seeds may remain viable in the seedbank for up to two years, any management should include site visits for several years to ensure eradication.

**REFERENCE** - Oregon State University. 2008. Slender False Brome. Slender False Brome. New York Department of Conservation. [http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands\\_forests\\_pdf/sfbfactsheet.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/sfbfactsheet.pdf). November 15, 2017.

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