Plant Crib



BROMOPSIS BENEKENII / B. RAMOSA

B. benekenii looks very similar to *B. ramosa* and is consequently probably overlooked in rocky woods and ravines. In flower, the species can be distinguished using the characters below, but vegetative material cannot, as yet, be separated satisfactorily. Useful jizz characters are that *B. benekenii* is taller (about 20 cm) (at least in the west; they are reported as shorter in Beech woods in the east), and the inflorescences are swept to one side and appear denser as they have more spikelets with shorter branches. *B. ramosa* is usually shorter, with graceful, open, slender, arching inflorescences. The latter nearly always grows with or near *B. benekenii*. Some populations are more intermediate in characters, and on dry ledges *B. benekenii* may have 1-3 branches only. *Festuca gigantea* can look similar to both in habit, but is glabrous.

- *B. benekenii* (Lange) Holub: Lowest node of panicle with (1-)3-5 branches (some of which may have only one spikelet); scale minutely hairy (×20 lens).
- *B. ramosa* (Huds.) Holub: Lowest node of panicle with 2(-4) branches (each usually with 2 or more spikelets); scale hairy with ciliate margins.

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Scales from lowest node (a) *B. benekenii*, (b) *B. ramosa.*