

Plant Facts

Mexican Feathergrass - *Nassella tenuissima*

Other Common Names: Needle Grass, Mexican Wiregrass, Texas Tussock



MEXICAN FEATHERGRASS

Nassella (Stipa) tenuissima

✦ **Native Perennial Ornamental Grass**



Full Sun / Part Shade **Water:** Low, very drought tolerant

1-2' Tall/Wide **Color:** Silvery Green

Thread-like grass with white seed heads summer-fall

Grown by a Denton County Master Gardener

General Information

This perennial has a beautiful wispy texture and gracefully billows in the breeze. The delicate threadlike foliage varies from shades of silver to tan colored seed heads that form in late Spring. May go dormant in severe heat. It prefers full sun to partial shade areas. Native to Texas rocky slopes and open areas.

Characteristics

Hardiness Zones: 7-9

Height Size: 2ft w x 1ft h

Flowers: None but has showy seed heads

Bloom Time: Seed heads - Spring thru Fall

Leaves: Light silvery green. Simple alternate leaves with a rough to touch surface.

Growth Habit/Shape: Upright, clumping

Soil Requirements: Well-drained and tolerant of difficult soil

Propagation: Seed

Indoor/Outdoor: Outdoor

Pests and Diseases

Generally, disease resistant and no known pests.

Plant Care

Mexican Feathergrass is considered a medium sized border or accent plant. Grows best in sunny locations with well-drained soil. It will tolerate partial shade. Should not be watered more than once per week and does not like heavy mulch. This is a low maintenance grass with self-sowing tendencies. Foliage should be left for winter interest and wildlife shelter. Shear this grass in early spring before new growth appears.

Sources for Additional Information

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=nate3

Texas SmartScape™

<https://www.txsmartscape.com/plant-search/mexican-feathergrass>