

Botanical Name: Nasella tenuissima (Stipa tenuissima)

Common Name: Mexican Feather Grass      Family: Poaceae

Type of Plant: Monocot-perennial      Character: Dormant in winter

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Clumping, wispy feathery grass, low-growing & graceful, with fibrous root system

Height: 1-2'      Spread: 1-2' (3')      Growth Rate: Fast

Environment:

Exposure Full sun or partial shade

Soil Any well-draining soil

Hardiness Sunset Zones 2b-24

Morphology:

Leaves Alternate, simple, to 18" long; light silvery green turning buff color in winter

Flowers Spikelet on thin flowering stems, whitish-silvery green, June through September

Fruit 3" awns with dry, one-seeded achene

Propagation: Seed (collect when dry and comes away easily)

Usage: Low-growing, graceful accent grass, feathery stems sway in the breeze; dry gardens, informal borders and masses, on slopes. Beautiful when backlit by sun

Landscape Care:

Watering Little water required when established, occasionally supplement in summer

Fertilizing None

Pruning Cut to 4-6" above ground at beginning of growing season

Pests/Diseases None

Other Caution: Self sows readily, considered a Noxious Weed so control near wildlands

Origin: Southwest U.S and Mexico