

NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANTS

-Grasses-

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority - Native Prairie Activity Guide 2007



Blue Grama Grass

- Seed head looks like eyelashes or eyebrows.
- Leaves are short and curly.
- Grows in clumps or bunches.
- Roots are short and stringy.
- Grows in dry areas.
- Sign of too many livestock feeding in the area.
- First Nations peoples used the Blue Grama grass to tell what the winter would be like. If there was only one seed spike, the winter would be mild. If there were two or more, the winter would be cold.

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Foxtail Barley

- Heads look like a feathery fox's tail.
- Leaves are bluish-green.
- Roots are short.
- Seeds spread by catching on animal fur and on people's clothes.
- Grows up to 60 cm tall.
- Often seen growing along roadsides or along back lanes in the cities.
- Likes moist and saline (salty) areas.
- One of "nature's band-aids," it fills in bare earth.

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Needle and Thread Grass

- Official provincial grass of Saskatchewan.
- Seed has a long, soft, curled beard which looks like a needle and thread.
- Roots are short and stringy.
- Grows in clumps or bunches.
- Grows in dry areas.
- Good food for livestock and wildlife.