Bristle-leaved Sedge

Carex eburnea



Bristle-leaved Sedge
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Bristle-leaf Sedge

Description:

This compact native sedge has needle shaped foliage and a clumping habit; excellent in rock gardens, containers, or as a groundcover; prefers part shade and moisture, thrives in drier conditions with more shade; tough and adaptable

Ornamental Features

Bristle-leaved Sedge is primarily valued in the garden for its cascading habit of growth. Its grassy leaves remain forest green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Bristle-leaved Sedge is an herbaceous perennial grass with a shapely form and gracefully arching stems. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Bristle-leaved Sedge is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Bristle-leaved Sedge will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 14 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Bristle-leaved Sedge is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing the canvas against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.