



Photo by J Anderson USFWS

## Big Bluestem

*Andropogon gerardii*

### Growing Information

- Sunlight: Full sun
- Soils: Dry, average
- Bloom Time: Purplish in summer and early fall
- Size: 2-5ft in height; 2-4ft spread

A robust, warm season bunchgrass, Big Bluestem is best used as a striking accent in meadow landscapes. Silver tufts of seeds in late summer, contrast with golden fall foliage. Very drought tolerant once established.

### Garden Companions

Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), Goldenrods (*Solidago* species),

### Nature Benefits

- Host plant for at least eleven native butterflies and moths
- Attracts songbirds
- Valuable to a range of insects, birds, and mammals

### Natural Habitat

Occurs in low meadows and moist grasslands