



Sporobolus heterolepis

Prairie Dropseed



Prairie Dropseed is a bunch-forming grass with a fountain of finely textured leaves. Once established, it requires no maintenance or supplemental watering. Its combination of beauty and hardiness make Prairie Dropseed a highly desirable grass for landscaping.

Characteristics	
Height: 2 ft	
Spread: 2 ft	
Bloom time: August-October	
Perennial	
Attributes	
Low-maintenance bunchgrass ideal for borders, mass plantings, and as an accent amidst native flowers	
Seeds provide food for birds	
Warm season grass; grows actively throughout the summer	
Seed heads and golden-tan winter foliage create year-round visual interest	
Larval host plant for several skipper species	
Creates nest habitat for native pollinators	
Growing and Maintenance	
Soil requirements: Medium-Dry	Native Range Grows east of the Rocky Mountains to Massachusetts; most common in Midwestern tallgrass prairies Used for landscaping throughout Ohio, but native range limited to Central Ohio, in Darby Plains prairie near Columbus
Light requirements: Full Sun, Part Sun	
Water requirements: Low-Medium	
Thrives in dry, rocky or sandy soils, but is adaptable to a wide variety of conditions, including heavy clay soil	
Tolerates drought, but not standing water	
Regrows after fire or mowing	
Slow to mature, but long-lived; becomes fuller each year as more leaves grow in	
Difficult to divide or transplant	
Does not typically spread or self-sow	
Developed by Black Swamp Conservancy	

References listed at www.blackswamp.org/factsheetreferences/

Photos by Cindy Guajardo, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/cmgart/>, under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 Generic (CC BY-SA 2.0)