

Botanical Name: *Aristida purpurea*

Common Name: Purple Threeawn



Family: Poaceae

Habitat: Sandy plains, washes, slopes, roadsides

Native Distribution: S United States, Mexico

Elevation: Up to 5,000 ft

Hardiness: 10°F

Type: Evergreen

Size: 2' tall x 2' wide

Shape: Bunching

Growth Rate: Fast

Flowers: 2" purplish awns attached three to a seed

Bloom Season: April to October

Fruit: Purple or tan seeds

Foliage: Narrow, medium green blades

Exposure: Full/reflected sun

Shade: N/A

Water Requirements: Very low

***Aristida purpurea* (Purple Threeawn) in Phoenix**

xeriscapes: Purple Threeawn adds a feathery texture to Phoenix xeriscapes, especially around bold cacti and boulders. Plant *Aristida purpurea* in a mass, with wildflowers, or under garden art. Helps control erosion. Low litter, no thorns.

Wildlife: N/A

More about *Aristida purpurea* (Purple Threeawn):

- *Aristida purpurea* tolerates most well-draining soils.
- Shear Purple Threeawn's spent seed heads or pull older plants in late fall.
- Purple Threeawn will do well with rainfall alone, or supplement with monthly irrigation in the summer.
- *Aristida purpurea* re-seeds readily with more than monthly irrigation.
- Keep Purple Threeawn away from people and pet areas as seeds can attach to clothing and fur.