

**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.