

Botanical Name: *Sporobolus airoides*

Common Name: Alkali Sacaton



Family: Poaceae

Habitat: Sandy plains, washes, slopes, roadsides

Native Distribution: W United States, Mexico

Elevation: 2,500 to 5,500 ft

Hardiness: -15°F

Type: Semi-deciduous

Size: 3' tall x 2' wide

Shape: Bunching

Growth Rate: Fast

Flowers: 12-18" seedheads with a pinkish hue

Bloom Season: Summer to fall

Fruit: Tan seeds

Foliage: 12" narrow, light green leathery blades

Exposure: Full/part sun

Shade: N/A

Water Requirements: Low

***Sporobolus airoides* (Alkali Sacaton) in Phoenix**

xeriscapes: *Sporobolus airoides* adds a delicate texture and color to Phoenix xeriscapes, especially around more structural cacti and boulders.

Excellent in a massed planting. Alkali Sacaton is often used for erosion control, making it an excellent choice for re-vegetation. Some litter, no thorns.

Wildlife: Birds appreciate the seeds.

More about *Sporobolus airoides* (Alkali Sacaton):

- *Sporobolus airoides* grows well in most soils and tolerates most pH levels.
- Shear spent seedheads of Alkali Sacaton in the spring to promote new growth.
- Alkali Sacaton will do well with rainfall alone or monthly irrigation in the summer, but will not tolerate over-watering.
- Use *Sporobolus airoides* in floral or dried arrangements.