



Characteristics

**Conservation Plant Characteristics**

*Schizachyrium scoparium* (Michx.) Nash var. *divergens* (Hack.) Gould  
**little bluestem**  
**SCSCD**

**Summary**

Duration	Perennial	Federal T/E Status
Growth Habit	Graminoid	National Wetland Indicator
U.S. Nativity		

**Morphology/Physiology**

Active Growth Period	Summer and Fall	Fruit/Seed Conspicuous	No
After Harvest Regrowth Rate	Slow	Growth Form	Bunch
Bloat	None	Growth Rate	Rapid
C:N Ratio	Medium	Height at Base Age, Maximum	4
Coppice Potential	No	Height at Maturity	4
Fall Conspicuous	No	Known Allelopath	No
Fire Resistant	No	Leaf Retention	No
Flower Color	Yellow	Lifespan	Moderate
Flower Conspicuous	No	Low Growing Grass	Yes
Foliage Color	Gray-Green	Nitrogen Fixation	
Foliage Porosity Summer	Moderate	Resprout Ability	No
Foliage Porosity Winter	Porous	Shape and Orientation	Erect
Foliage Texture	Medium	Toxicity	None
Fruit/Seed Color	Brown		

**Growth Requirements**

Adapted To Coarse Textured Soils	Yes	Moisture Use	Medium
Adapted To Medium Textured Soils	Yes	pH, Minimum	5.8
Adapted To Fine Textured Soils	Yes	pH, Maximum	6.8
Anaerobic Tolerance	Low	Planting Density Per Acre, Minimum	
CaCO3 Tolerance	Low	Planting Density Per Acre, Maximum	
Cold Stratification Required	No	Precipitation, Minimum	34
Drought Tolerance	High	Precipitation, Maximum	48
Fertility Requirement	Medium	Root Depth, Minimum	10
Fire Tolerance	High	Salinity Tolerance	None
Frost Free Days, Minimum	220	Shade Tolerance	Intolerant

Hedge Tolerance	None	Temperature, Minimum (°F)	-3
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**Reproduction**

Bloom Period	Early Summer	Propagated By Cuttings	No
Commercial Availability	Routinely Available	Propagated By Seed	Yes
Fruit/Seed Abundance	Low	Propagated By Sod	No
Fruit/Seed Period Begin	Summer	Propagated By Sprigs	No
Fruit/Seed Period End	Fall	Propagated By Tubers	No
Fruit/Seed Persistence	No	Seed Per Pound	200000
Propagated By Bare Root	No	Seed Spread Rate	Slow
Propagated By Bulbs	No	Seedling Vigor	Low
Propagated By Container	No	Small Grain	No
Propagated By Corms	No	Vegetative Spread Rate	None

**Suitibility/Use**

Berry/Nut/Seed Product	No	Palatable Browse Animal	Medium
Christmas Tree Product	No	Palatable Graze Animal	Medium
Fodder Product	Yes	Palatable Human	No
Fuelwood Product	None	Post Product	No
Lumber Product	No	Protein Potential	Low
Naval Store Product	No	Pulpwood Product	No
Nursery Stock Product	No	Veneer Product	No

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