



Needle-like leaves

Planting Tips:

Plant from seeds or divide clumps.

This plant does not tolerate full shade; full sun is needed. This grass spreads. Plants must be spaced 2 to 3 feet apart, growing best in moist soil.

Muhly grass can be planted year-round in Mississippi, but the brown leaves must be cut to the ground before the spring prior to new growth. Clumps can be burned to remove old leaves and promote new growth. Spring is the best time to divide the clumps of grass. This should be done no later than early summer.

Visitor Education Center (VEC)

About Us

The Visitor Education Center (VEC) at the North Mississippi Fish Hatchery is the first and only facility of its kind in Mississippi. It is owned and operated by the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks.

In addition to the native habitat area, the VEC features a 10,000 gallon aquarium, interactive exhibits, displays, artifacts, fishing rodeo pond, gift shop and gallery, and the World Record White Crappie. All of these elements serve as entertaining and engaging learning experiences for all visitors.

The VEC promotes the sport of freshwater fishing in Mississippi, and encourages the conservation and stewardship of aquatic resources. The facility offers guided and self-guided tours along with a myriad of programs and workshops for the public.



Purple muhly grass

MISSISSIPPI NATIVE: PURPLE MUHLY GRASS

(Muhlenbergia capillaris)

**NMFH Visitor
Education Center**

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Purple flowers

Description/Size:

This stiff, upright, ornamental plant has soft, pink or purple flowers resembling feathers. Stems clump together, and leaves are long, green, and needle-like.

Brownish-black seeds appear after blooming occurs.

Single leaves are 18 to 36 inches long, and the plant itself grows to a height of 3 feet and reaches widths of 2 to 3 feet.

Season:

This perennial has flowers that bloom in the fall, covering the foliage.

Habitat:

This plant is found in beach dunes, pine flatwoods, and coastal uplands.

Other Names:

Hairwan Muhly, Hair Grass, Long-awn Hairgrass, Pink Muhly, and Gulf Muhly.



Muhly grass border at VEC



Leaves and flowers

Interesting Facts:

This plant tolerates both droughts and floods. The muhly grass is very popular in garden landscapes. It is highly desirable as a border because of its vibrant color.



Information Sources: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, MSU Extension, Clemson.edu, USDA, and VEC Staff. Pictures taken at the VEC (Wiggins, E.J.); property of MDWFP.