

# Feather Reed Grass



## *Calamagrostis acutiflora* Karl Foerster

- **Use:** This reed grass is a vertical masterpiece and provides wonderful contrast amongst low shrubs and perennials. Often used in naturalized areas, its ultimate size is directly related to the amount of moisture. Even though *Calamagrostis* can grow in fresh-water bogs, it also thrives in drier areas. Sways gracefully in the lightest breeze. A row or a mass planting of Karl is spectacular on a windy day! Deer resistant!
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun; moist to wet fertile soil; tolerates a wide range of soil types including dry sandy soil; thrives in clay soil.
- **Growth:** Grows 5 to 6 feet tall, with flowers 7 to 8 feet tall.
- **Hardiness:** 4-9, Perennial
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Foliage is green; medium blade width; 36-48" tall. Cut back in February to 1' tall.
- **Flower:** Feathery loose purple tinged flowers on stalks to 6 feet tall in summer that age to a buff color by late summer. Flowers often remain erect despite heavy snowfall.

**2001 Perennial Plant of  
the Year!**  
**Low Maintenance and  
drought tolerant!**