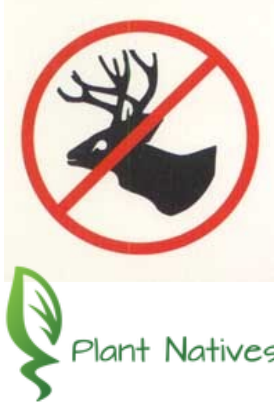


# Holy Smokes Big Bluestem Grass



**Best massed in wild-flower meadows, prairie or naturalized areas. Also effective in border rears or native plant gardens as a screen or accent. Extensive root system makes this a good grass for ero-**

**sion control. Tolerates deer, drought, erosion, dry soil, black walnut, air pollution. No serious insect or disease problems.**



## ***Andropogon gerardii* 'Holy Smokes'**

- **Use:** Dubbed the "monarch of the prairie", this native grass was once the dominant component of the American tallgrass prairie. It adapts easily to a wide range of soil and moisture conditions as long as full sun is provided. This long-lived grass has a variety of uses including screening, naturalizing, restoring prairies, and nesting materials for birds and mammals.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun; Easy to grow in any soil except poorly drained.
- **Growth:** Reaches 5ft tall and 30" wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 3-9, Perennial
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Upright stems that emerge blue green, mature to green with red tinges, then bronze and lavender in fall.
- **Flower:** Flowering stems rise in late summer above the foliage clump bearing purplish 3-parted, finger-like flower clusters (to 4" long) purportedly resembling turkey feet (hence the additional common name of turkeyfoot grass for this species). Flowering stems bring total height of this grass to 6'tall (typically at the taller end in moist soils and the shorter end in dry soils).