

## Feather Reed Grass

*Calamagrostis x acutifolia* 'Karl Foerster'

Plant Form: Ornamental grass

Water Use: Low, moderate

Mature Size: 3-5 ft. tall x 2-3 ft. wide

Exposure: Full sun, part sun

Bloom Time: Summer (June-Aug)

Native to: Hybrid from Eurasian parents

Hardiness: Cold Hardy to -30°F

'Karl Foerster' Feather Reed Grass, one of the most popular ornamental grasses worldwide, may be the most useful plant available to create bold vertical structure in our gardens. Its erect, feathery plumes sway gracefully in the slightest breeze, but even strong winds and rain don't daunt its narrow, upright form. Slim, tan flower spikes of this sterile hybrid complement its dark green foliage. This long-lived bunchgrass adapts to most climates, and tolerates soil types from gravel to clay, accepting full sun but appreciating part shade during our hot summers. Its flower stalks make beautiful fresh or dried cut flower arrangements. To keep this bunchgrass tidy, trim down to the base in late winter before new spring shoots appear. Use in masses, groups, or as a single specimen for a special accent, or along borders and walkways, on slopes, in raised planters and containers, near pools and water features, and as a living screen. This grass makes an excellent vertical accent for narrow spaces in the landscape.



# September 2025 Plant of the Month



Alliance for Water  
Awareness and Conservation

For more information on low-water-use gardening,  
contact your local water provider or go to

[www.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac/](http://www.mojavewater.org/conservation/awac/)

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