



***Elymus hystrix* – Bottlebrush Grass**

COMMON NAME: Bottlebrush Grass

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Elymus hystrix* – the Greek *hystrix* means hedgehog (porcupine) in reference to the seed head bristles. A previous scientific name was *hystrix patula*.

FLOWER COLOR: Green, maturing to brown

BLOOMING PERIOD: mid summer

SIZE: 2 ½ to 5 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: This plant forms loose upright tufts of narrow-bladed, rough-textured, medium green leaves up to 12 inches long. The flower heads rise well above the foliage.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Mesic deciduous woodlands, rocky upland woodlands, borders, meadows in wooded areas, savannas, and rocky glades. Plant in full sun or part shade.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The bottlebrush-shape of the floral spike is distinctive.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant in clumps. After that little care is needed.

NATURAL RANGE: Eastern half of US and Canada except for Florida and Texas. Occurs in all Wisconsin counties.

COMPANION PLANTS: