

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



## ***Koeleria cristata* – June Grass**

COMMON NAME: Prairie June Grass

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Koeleria cristata* The grass genus *koeleria* is named after the German botanist Georg Ludwig Koeler.

BLOOMING PERIOD: The flowers look like long fuzzy spikes and bloom in May-July, but mostly June.

HEIGHT: Up to 2 feet

BEHAVIOR: A cool season bunch grass. It does not have rhizomes and is not aggressive. It has a shallow, but very strong, root system.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Requires dry sandy soil. Does not grow in moist rich soil. This is a dry upland and open woods prairie grass.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The leaves are blue-green and roll lengthwise when the weather is very dry. These leaves are tightly packed into a basal clump from which the taller flowering stems grow.

RANGE: Nearly all of the US and Canada

COMPANION PLANTS: Grows with other dry prairie plants such as little bluestem, side oats grama grass, purple prairie clover, silk aster, old field goldenrod and pasque flower.