

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



***Carex vulpinoidea* – Brown Fox Sedge**

COMMON NAME: Fox Sedge, Brown Fox Sedge,

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Carex* is one genus of the sedges. The name comes from Latin for cutter referring to the sharp leaves and stem edges.

FLOWER: About 5 inches of greenish inflorescences at the end of a stem that is shorter than the foliage.

BLOOMING PERIOD: Early summer

SIZE: 2 to 3 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: This sedge forms clumps about two feet in diameter with shiny, narrow arching foliage.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Full sun in moist to wet soil. This is a fairly common sedge of wet meadows and grows in seasonally flooded areas adjacent to ponds, creeks, and rivers.

NATURAL RANGE: Throughout the US, except for Utah.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The inflorescences turn brown as they age and resemble a fox tail. It is particularly good for rain gardens. Deer and pest resistant and providing habitat and cover for birds. It serves as a host plant for skipper butterflies.

SUGGESTED CARE: In a garden the plants should be cut to the ground during late winter.

NOTE: The Arboretum distinguishes this brown fox sedge from a common fox sedge (*Carex stipata*) and an earlier blooming yellow-headed fox sedge (*Carex annectens*).