



Deschampsia caespitosa, TUFTED HAIRGRASS

The largest grower of California native plants in the state, Tree of Life Nursery has been located on the historic Rancho Mission Viejo in San Juan Capistrano for over 20 years. Largely a wholesale nursery, the *Roundhouse Plant Store* is open to the public Fridays year-round and Saturdays in fall and spring. For those interested in learning more, we offer a large selection of books on the California region regarding landscaping and horticulture, natural history, conservation, and more. The nursery's catalog, "Plants of El Camino Real," is a beautifully arranged collection of information about the plants we grow, with helpful hints for landscapers and gardeners looking for the right plant for the right place. Come experience Tree of Life for yourself!

NATIVE PERENNIAL BUNCHGRASSES

Aristida purpurea
Calamagrostis nutkaensis
Festuca californica
Melica imperfecta
Muhlenbergia rigens
Nassella species
Oryzopsis hymenoides
Sporobolus airoides

Tufted Hairgrass is a cool-season perennial bunchgrass found in wet meadows, woods and forests of the Sierra Nevadas, the coast ranges and locally in the San Bernardino Mountains. Bright green clumps of mostly evergreen foliage range from 1 to 3 feet tall and wide. Flowers emerge 2 to 3 feet above the foliage silky green in late spring and summer and mature to golden. Plant in masses under established trees, in shady parkways and planters, and in mixed borders. It also makes a striking accent where the flowers catch the morning or evening light. Water 2 to 4 times a month in summer, especially in inland regions. Create a California mountain meadow by combining with *Achillea*, *Allium*, *Aquileia*, *Carex*, *Iris*, *Lupinus*, *Thalictrum*, *Penstemon*, *Sisyrinchium*, and *Solidago*. Tufted Hairgrass is a favored forage of rabbits.

PLANT PROFILES

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Bunchgrasses add graceful motion to naturalistic plantings, their airy flowers catching the lightest breeze and glowing in the low light.

