

*Andropogon gerardii*  
**Big Bluestem**



**Summer Flower**



**Summer Foliage**



**Fall/Winter Foliage**

**Characteristics:** Perennial grass

**Appearance:**

**Height** – 4-8 ft.

**Flower Color** – Yellow

**Flowering Period** – August to November

**Habitat (Community):** Open woods, prairies, meadows, along riverbanks, and roadsides. Especially abundant in lowland prairies, overflow sites, and sandy areas.

**Hydrology:**

**Indicator Status** – Facultative, Facultative Upland

**Salinity** – Moderately saline tolerant. Not tolerate to high salinity.

**Non-Tidal Regime** – Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates of a wide range of soils and growing conditions. It is best adapted to moist, sandy or clay loams but also occurs in dry or shallow soils. It can withstand periodic flooding and high water tables.

**Wildlife Benefits:** Source of nectar for Delaware Skipper and Dusted Skipped. Provides shelter for nesting birds and insects. Songbirds and prairie chickens consume the seeds while white-tailed deer and bison graze vegetative parts.

**Distribution:** Quebec to Saskatchewan, south to Florida and Arizona