

Panicum virgatum

Switchgrass



Foliage^{ab}

Characteristics: Herbaceous, Perennial, Persistent

Appearance:

Height - Up to 6'

Flowering Period - August through November

Bloom Color - Green to Brown

Habitat (Community): fresh and brackish tidal marshes nontidal marshes wet meadows open woods, prairies, dunes

Hydrology:

Indicator status – Facultative (prefers moderate conditions)

Salinity – Fresh to brackish water; up to approximately 10 ppt

Tidal – above mean high water to upland

Non-Tidal Regime – irregularly to seasonally inundated or saturated (up to approximately 25% of the growing season)

Wildlife Benefits: Food for teals, wigeon, black duck, snow goose, snipes, ground dove, bobwhite, wild turkey, red-winged blackbird, cowbird, blue grosbeak, longspurs, sparrows (tree, savannah, Lincoln etc.), white-footed mouse, muskrat, rabbit and deer.

^a <http://www.pinelandsnursery.com/2015/02/panicum-virgatum-switchgrass.html>

^b Jeff McMillian, hosted by the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database

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