

## LAHONTAN AUDUBON SOCIETY: NORTHERN NEVADA NATIVE PLANTS FOR BIRDS GUIDE



## **GRASSES:**

PLANT	DESCRIPTION	BIRDS ATTRACTED
Alkali-Sacaton (Sporobolus airoides)	This is a medium-sized, summergrowing bunchgrass known for its tolerance of alkaline soils. It grows green, deciduous leaves near the base, reddish spikelet seedheads, and small, yellow flowers that bloom mid-summer. This bunchgrass can also tolerate drought, growing up to 3 feet tall in partial shade and moist to dry soil.	Finches, Chickadees & Titmice, Sparrows, Nuthatches Crows & Jays, Woodpeckers, and Grosbeaks and Buntings
Bluebunch Fescue (Festuca idahoensis)	This perennial grass also goes by Bunchgrass Fescue and Idaho Fescue. It grows in tufts 2 1/2 feet high and 1 1/2 feet wide with bluegreen to gray-green stems and flowering stalks. It is drought tolerant and does well in full sun to partial shade and rocky soils, as well as in containers.	Finches, Waxwings, Wood Warblers, Mockingbirds & Thrashers, Crows & Jays, Vireos, Orioles, Grosbeaks and Buntings, Nuthatches, Sparrows, Woodpeckers, Chickadees & Titmice
Deergrass (Muhlenbergia rigens)	Deergrass, also known as Meadow Muhly and Deer Muhly, is a summer-growing, perennial bunchgrass that grows to 3 by 4 feet. It produces dense, tufted foliage with narrow leaves that reach to about 3 feet in length and range from silver-green to purple. It grows in full sun and moist soils, and is highly resistant to deer. This grass attracts birds and small mammals that feed on its seeds and use its foliage for nesting and denning.	Buntings & Grosbeaks, Chickadees & Titmice, Crows & Jays, Finches, Nuthatches, Sparrows, Woodpeckers



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## Purple Three Awn



This annual, deciduous grass often grows in large bunches and has attractive, purplish seed sprays. The culms of this grass grow 12 to 20 inches tall in full sun, and in dry, rocky soils. The seeds can be food for song birds, and the plant itself can provide nesting materials for some mammals.

Grosbeaks & Buntings, Chickadees & Titmice, Crows & Jays, Finches, Mockingbirds & Thrashers, Nuthatches, Orioles, Sparrows, Thrushes, Vireos, Waxwings, Wood Warblers, Woodpeckers, Wrens