

***Bouteloua curtipendula* 'Butte' - Sideoats grama**



Native to open woods, dry prairies, sand hills, dry clearings and roadsides of the eastern and central United States, southern Canada, and south to Argentina, sideoats grama is a warm season bunchgrass. Despite having a short rhizomatous root system, plants spread at a slow rate to two feet in width. From an 18-inch basal mound of gray-green foliage, purple, plumed inflorescences bloom July through September, increasing plant height to 3 feet. Blooms only occur on one side of the inflorescence stalks on spikes arranged alternately on these stalks. Oat-like seeds, therefore, develop on these spikes on the same side of the stalks that bloomed. Sideoats grama blades turn golden brown, tinged with red and orange, in autumn. Inflorescence stalks and spikes persist into late autumn and then fall to the ground. Sideoats grama will self-sow.

Hardy to USDA zone 4 (-30 degrees F), sideoats grama grows best in dry, well-drained, moderately alkaline, sandy to loamy soil in full sun. Plants are tolerant of drought, part shade and black walnut trees but do not do well in wet sites.

Sideoats grama, the state grass of Texas and Oklahoma, grows well in combination with other tall, warm season grasses. Plants are the larval host for several types of skipper moths.