

**Weed Alert!**  
**Finestem needlegrass**



# Finestem needlegrass

(*Nassella tenuissima*)

**Mature Size** Knee



## Description

- 1-3 ft. tall tufted, perennial bunchgrass with slender upright leaves
- Clusters of seedheads are 4-12 in. long, falling loosely open
- Each branch in a seedhead cluster bears only one seed
- Individual seeds are elongated and tipped with a very long stiff bristle
- Leaf blades are mostly hairless and very thin with pointed tips
- Stems also mostly hairless and leaves tufted around base of the plant
- Reproduces by seed
- Spread by horticulture, wind, animals, equipment
- Thought to be native to the southeastern USA, Mexico, and southern South America



**Bloom Period** Jun - Aug

**Habitat** Grassland, open woodland, roadsides, disturbed sites



**2-Minute Removal** Pull

Image credits: Front: top/center: Stan Shebs, Front bottom: Drew Avery, Back: John Thompson, Queensland Herbarium; icons by Tim Hyland  
These cards were adapted from a design by National Park Service.