

ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH438



CHASMANTHIUM PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Northern Sea Oats
- Scientific name: *Chasmanthium latifolium*
- Native to southeastern North America
- Perennial, clump-forming grass growing 2-5' tall
- Leaves grow up to 1" wide and 6" long
- Forms clusters of flat, oat-like seedheads that hang on threadlike stems
- Leaves and flowerheads turn tan in autumn and reddish-bronze in winter
- Hardy in zones 4-9

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prefers full sun but will tolerate partial shade
- Prefers moist, not waterlogged, soil
- Established plants are drought tolerant

PROPAGATION

- Propagate by division in spring
- Space new plants 2' apart
- Seeds can be planted at any time of the year
- In moist areas, plants will self-sow and can become invasive

DISORDERS

- No serious pest or disease problems

CONSUMER CARE

- Cut old foliage back to the ground in spring before new growth begins
- Plants should be divided every 2-3 years
- Often used as a ground cover or perennial border
- Dried flowerheads last indefinitely in arrangements

CULTIVARS AND SPECIES

- *Chasmanthium latifolium*: dark green foliage, dangling seed heads

References

http://www.floridata.com/ref/C/chas_lat.cfm

<http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/798/>