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## ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH440



### MUHLENBERGIA PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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#### INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Pink Muhlygrass
- Scientific name: *Muhlenbergia capillaris*
- Native to eastern North America and the West Indies
- Clump forming grass growing up to 3' tall and 3' wide
- Stems and leaves are wire-like and unbranched
- Wispy, purplish flowerheads give the effect of a purple haze when backlit
- Flowers appear in late summer and last 6-8 weeks
- Hardy in zones 5-10

#### GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Grows well in full sun or light shade

- Tolerates a wide variety of media conditions
- Drought tolerant, although well-irrigated plants will grow larger

#### PROPAGATION

- Easily grown from seed
- Divide existing clumps to start new plants

#### DISORDERS

- No serious pest or disease problems

#### CONSUMER CARE

- Often used in borders and perennial gardens
- Tolerant of poor soils and salt spray found in seaside locations

- Excellent ground cover for areas with poor soil
- Can be used to weave baskets

#### **CULTIVARS AND SPECIES**

- *Muhlenbergia capillaris*: blue-green, fine-textured foliage, feathery pink flowers

#### **References**

[http://www.floridata.com/ref/M/muhl\\_cap.cfm](http://www.floridata.com/ref/M/muhl_cap.cfm)

[http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/factsheets/ornamental\\_grass/muhlenbergia\\_capillaris.html](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/factsheets/ornamental_grass/muhlenbergia_capillaris.html)