

November 2012 *Guess that Plant*



Setaria viridis (L.) Beauv. Green Fox-tail Grass

The November *Guess that Plant* was one of New Jersey's more common weedy grasses, the green fox-tail grass. This grass is found statewide with the exception of the center of the Pine Barrens. Often found in agricultural settings, it is just at home growing in the corner lots in any New Jersey downtown.

The plant is identified by its dense cluster of spikelets that adorn the tip of annual fruiting culms that are not verticillate, creating narrow upright panicles. The plant prefers open rich but can be found on poor substrates if the seed source is available and space permits. The grass retains its appearance after fruiting and can be identified up to the first destructive winter storms. Now the leaves and flowers are gone, keep your eye out for last year's plants, including green fox-tail, the November *Guess that Plant*.

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