

# Pennisetum



Pennisetum setaceum 'Rubrum'

There are approximately 80 species that make up the genus Pennisetum. They are distributed widely throughout various tropical and temperate regions around the world. Many Pennisetums are perennials and have been selected for use in ornamental landscapes. The Pennisetums are mostly grown for their prolific and highly ornamental flowers although some, like *P. setaceum* 'Rubrum' are also grown for their attractive red or bronze colored foliage. The majority of Pennisetums go dormant in the winter except in exceptionally mild areas. However, there are a few evergreen species that are being introduced to the trade including *P. spathiolatum* and *P. messiacum*. Pennisetums are generally care free. Once established most require little care outside of an annual hard pruning to promote fresh growth and blooms for the following year. A few types of Pennisetum should be used with great care in landscapes that are adjacent to natural areas. Be warned to stay away from the true species *P. setaceum* as it spreads very aggressively into natural areas and has replaced many native species along our beautiful coastline in California.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

Zones 6-10, 14-24. Most prefer full sun or light shade. Will thrive in a variety of soils with some varieties preferring well drained areas. Most are drought-tolerant, but some prefer more regular water.

#### Pennisetum currently grown at El Nativo Growers, Inc.:

<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> 'Hameln'	1-2'H x 1-2'W, Sun/Partial Sun, Pinkish, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> 'Little Bunny'	6-8"H x 6-12"W, Sun/Partial Sun, Tan, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i> 'Moudry'	2-3'H x 2-3'W, Sun/Partial Sun, Blackish, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum messiacum</i>	12-18"H x 12-18"W, Sun/Partial Sun, Blackish Maturing to Tan, Evergreen
<i>Pennisetum orientale</i>	12-18"H x 12-18"W, Sun, Pink, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum orientale</i> 'Tall Tails'	4-5'H x 3-5'W, Sun/Partial Sun, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> 'Bronze Dwarf'	1-2'H x 1-2'W, Sun, Pale Pink, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> 'Eaton Canyon'	2-3'H x 2-3'W, Sun/Partial Sun, Pinkish, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> 'Rubrum'	3-5'H x 2-4'W, Sun, Brown/Red, Winter Dormant
<i>Pennisetum spathiolatum</i>	12-18"H x 12-18"W clumping, Sun/Partial Sun, Tan, Evergreen
<i>Pennisetum villosum</i>	2-3'H x 2-3'W, Sun/Partial Sun, Cream, Winter Dormant

If you have any questions or would like to place an order, please call (626) 969-8449.