

Barbed Wire Grass

Cymbopogon refractus
sim-bo-PO-gon ree-FRAK-tus



Category:
Grasses/Strappy
Height: 1 metre
Spread: 0.5 metres



Full sun



Drought tolerant



Adaptable



Bird attracting

A clump-forming, perennial, warm-season grass. It is most notable for its seed heads which look like barbed wire, hence the name.

It is widespread on poor or low nutrient soils but also grows in a wide range of soils from sands to clays. It is sometimes found in drier inland locations on lighter soils and stony slopes and along the edge of watercourses. It does not survive continual grazing.

A striking plant when mass planted in the garden and contrasted with low-growing flowering plants.

HOT TIP: The *Cymbopogon* genus is the Lemon Grass genus and the native Australian species also contains essential oils and has a very pleasant lemony smell.