



**Scientific name:** *Sorghastrum nutans*

**Common name(s):** Indian Grass, Yellow Indiangrass

**Family:** Poaceae (Grass)

**Native:** CO, widespread east of the Rocky Mountains

**Habitat:** Prairie, plains, foothills, ditches



Indian Grass is a warm season, clumping tallgrass prairie native. Its upright growth habit makes it a nice alternative to the overplanted, non-native 'Karl Foerster' Feather Reed Grass. This grass blooms a golden yellow at the end of summer and produces seeds for birds while its clumping form provides quality habitat for ground nesting species. Plant in drifts for impact or to define boundaries or combine with prairie natives like Evening Primrose (*Oenothera spp.*), Blue Star (*Amsonia spp.*), Gayfeather (*Liatris spp.*) and Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*). Foliage is blueish green and turns bronze-yellow in the fall. Seedheads persist through winter. Cut back in mid-Spring.

**Plant type:** Perennial warm season bunchgrass

**Elevation:** Native range to 6800'

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 4

**Exposure:** Full sun

**Soil:** Sandy, loam, clay (tolerates seasonal poor drainage)

**Moisture:** Moderate, low, dry (prefers some moisture)

**Flower color:** Golden yellow

**Bloom time:** Late summer to early fall

**Mature size (height x width):** 4-5'(+ if high H2O) x 18-30"



**Propagation:** Store seeds dry at 40°F. Sow anytime from April 1-May 1, in cells kept outdoors or in situ. Cover lightly. Seeds germinate in 30-48 days.

