

*Deschampsia caespitosa*

[Synonyms : *Agrostis caespitosa*, *Aira alpicola*, *Aira ambigua*, *Aira arctica*, *Aira aristulata*, *Aira caespitosa*, *Aira caespitosa* var. *ambigua*, *Aira caespitosa* var. *genuina*, *Aira caespitosa* var. *montana*, *Aira caespitosa*, *Aira major* subsp. *caespitosa*, *Aira parviflora*, *Aira wilhelmsii*, *Avena caespitosa*, *Campella caespitosa*, *Campella caespitosa*, *Deschampsia alpicola*, *Deschampsia ambigua*, *Deschampsia andina*, *Deschampsia arctica*, *Deschampsia arctica* var. *borealis*, *Deschampsia berinensis*, *Deschampsia biebersteiniana*, *Deschampsia borealis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *abbei*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *alpicola*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *alpina*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *arctica*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *borealis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *confinis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* subsp. *genuina*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* subsp. *glauca*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *gracilis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *intercotidalis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *littoralis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *longiflora*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *mackenzieana*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* var. *maritima*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* subsp. *orientalis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* subsp. *paramushirensis*, *Deschampsia caespitosa* subsp. *parviflora*, *Deschampsia confinis*, *Deschampsia glauca*, *Deschampsia mackenzieana*, *Deschampsia paramushirensis*, *Deschampsia pumila*, *Deschampsia pungens*, *Deschampsia sukatschewii*, *Podionapus caespitosus*]

**TUFTED HAIRGRASS** is an evergreen perennial grass. Native to the northern hemisphere (including Britain) and particularly western North America, it has silver, purple or variegated-tinged flower spikelets.

It is also known as *Brigwellt Cydynnog* (Welsh), Bull pats, *Deschampsie gazonnante* (French), Hassock grass, Hassocks, *Lugovik děrnistyj* (Russian), *Metlica trsnatá* (Slovak), *Metlice trsnatá* (Czech), Old boys, *Ruwe smele* (Dutch), *Rasen-Schmiele* (German), Salt and pepper grass, *Śmialek darniowy* (Polish), Snigglebogs, Tussock grass, and *Tuvtátel* (Swedish).

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

*Cespitosa* means ‘tufted’ with reference to the way in which the grass grows.

Its presence can be an indication of wet, badly drained soil.

The North American Gosiute tribe harvested the seeds for food.

Tufted hairgrass has provided coarse fodder in the form of both grazing pasture and harvested hay. It also offers ground cover for birds, including quail.

The arching heads of spikelets have been used in fresh and dried flower arrangements.