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Milium effusum

[Synonyms : *Agrostis effusa*, *Decandolia effusa*, *Melica effusa*, *Miliarium effusum*, *Milium effusum* var. *cisatlanticum*, *Paspalum effusum*]

WOOD MILLET is an evergreen perennial grass. Native to northern temperate regions (including Britain) it has tiny, occasionally purple-tinged, yellow-green spikelets.

It is also known as American millet grass, *Ausgebreitetes Flattergras* (German), *Bor razvesistyj* (Russian), *Bosgierstgras* (Dutch), Golden wood millet, *Hässlebrodd* (Swedish), *Mildwellt* (Welsh), *Milio sterna* (Esperanto), *Millet étalé* (French), Millet grass, *Prosownica rozpierzchta* (Polish), *Pšeničko rozkladité* (Czech), *Pšeno rozložitě* (Slovak), and Spreading millet.

The grass has a hay-like scent.

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

The grass is a threatened species in some parts of the United States, including Illinois.

Effusum means 'loosely spreading or straggling'.

According to some records this minute grain has been ground locally for bread flour.

The grass is eaten by cattle in India. Birds enjoy the seeds.

Dried stems have provided straw for weaving hats.

Wood millet is cultivated as an ornamental grass in countries as far apart as Britain and India.

In the former it used particularly to be grown in woodland.