



NS General Status Rank: At Risk

SIZE: Up to 1 m tall.

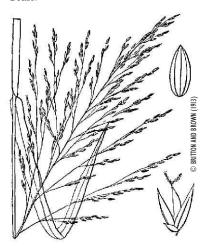
LEAVES: Long, narrow, smooth, often drooping, 10-50 cm long and 0.5-2 cm wide.

STEM: Smooth, round, erect or often reclining or lying on the ground. FLOWERS: Pyramid-shaped cluster of

flowers (panicle) that is widely branched, feathery in appearance, up to 40 cm long, and composed of many small spikelets. The spikelets are narrow, 2 mm long and green or purplish.

FRUITS: Small dry grains enclosed in the spikelets.

NOTES: Also known as Fall Panic Grass.



Habitat:

Sandy or gravelly lakeshores.

Similar species: Panicum dichotomiflorum var. dichotomiflorum tends to be slightly larger, is most often erect, has slightly longer spikelets (2.5-3 mm) and is most often found in disturbed habitats. Old Switch Panic Grass (Panicum virgatum var. spissum, page 79) has oval spikelets and is usually erect. Redtop Panic Grass (Panicum rigidulum var. pubescens, page 78) and Eaton's Panic Grass (Dichanthelium spretum, page 67) both have much shorter and narrower panicles.

Interesting point: There are 14 species of panic grasses in Nova Scotia (not including varieties or subspecies) and 475 globally!