

Purple Moor-grass - *Molinia caerulea*



Description

Purple moor-grass grows in tufts of leaf blades up to 45cm long and 3-10mm wide, gradually narrowing to a point at the tip. Leaves are shed in winter, turning light brown-gold and forming a layer of bundled leaf litter. Flowers are purplish spikelets that give the grass its name, set upon stalks up to 90cm long.

The plant grows in very poor, acidic and wet soils. It can be found in wet woodland W4 communities, wet heath, bog, and grassland, in particular in the west of the UK.

Grasses can compete with newly planted trees. As such, effective weed control is especially important for tree establishment in sites with a large population of purple moor grass.

Soil regimes

Soil reaction (R)	3
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Nitrogen availability (N)	2
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