

Tufted Hair-Grass - *Deschampsia cespitosa*



Description

The species common name: 'Tufted hair-grass' describes the species accurately. The plant grows in dense tufts, with long, rough, dark green leaves. These have forward pointing hairs running the length of the blade along parallel grooves. This makes the leaf rough when felt from tip to base. The flower stalks can reach 1m and hold multiple 2-flowered spikelets.

Tufted hair-grass grows in damp, neutral soils and can be found in W7-9 woodland, on cliffs, and in the mildly acidic environments of some mountain grasslands.

The species can compete with newly planted trees. As such, effective weed control is especially important for tree establishment in sites with a large population of tufted hair-grass.

Soil regimes

<i>Soil reaction (R)</i>	5
<i>Nitrogen availability (N)</i>	4

Acknowledgements:

Plantlife: Andrew Gagg (L), Rob Coltman, Cumbria Wildlife