

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

## NATIVE GRASSES WORDSEARCH 2

D	E	E	R	D	O	O	W	G	N	I	P	O	O	R	D	O
E	E	J	D	W	B	G	J	N	L	N	N	G	G	T	R	N
U	A	S	E	V	T	W	I	K	L	S	W	R	B	W	U	E
C	M	L	E	R	U	I	C	A	M	K	A	F	L	V	N	S
S	E	S	R	R	F	J	A	J	N	S	E	W	U	M	L	I
E	R	L	N	D	T	P	A	O	X	T	E	K	E	U	I	D
F	I	I	O	Z	E	N	T	U	V	V	R	K	S	T	A	E
A	C	M	M	V	D	E	E	A	P	F	H	Y	T	E	T	D
I	A	T	M	D	H	U	R	E	S	O	T	Q	E	S	L	B
N	N	R	O	I	A	D	U	A	D	W	D	W	M	I	E	L
R	S	I	C	O	I	I	L	K	K	L	L	L	F	R	R	U
O	L	D	I	U	R	T	U	N	K	M	E	F	R	T	R	E
F	O	E	L	P	G	T	Q	A	E	A	I	G	L	L	I	G
I	U	N	L	R	R	A	O	L	Q	N	F	C	R	L	U	R
L	G	S	A	Q	A	I	I	N	P	N	D	U	Y	A	Q	A
A	H	S	P	P	S	C	U	I	K	A	L	U	Y	T	S	S
C	S	H	P	H	S	E	M	A	P	H	O	R	E	B	T	S

### CAN YOU FIND THESE GRASSES?

AMERICAN SLOUGH  
 BLUESTEM  
 CALIFORNIA FESCUE  
 COMMON REED  
 DEER  
 DESERT NEEDLEGRASS  
 DROOPING WOODREED  
 FOWL MANNA  
 GIANT RYE  
 KNOT  
 KNOT-ROOT

MELIC  
 OLDFIELD THREE-AWN  
 ONE-SIDED BLUEGRASS  
 SALTGRASS  
 SEMAPHORE  
 SLIM TRIDENS  
 SQUIRRELTAIL  
 TALL TRISETUM  
 TUFTED HAIRGRASS

# WHY GRASSES ARE IMPORTANT

We civilized human beings are the People of the Grasses. Our three major crops (rice, wheat, maize) are all grasses. If any one of the three were wiped out, most humans in the world would starve before we could grow replacements.

Whole groups of animals depend on grasses: cattle, sheep, antelope, bison, etc.

As an experiment, try for a day to eat a diet free of grasses and products derived from grasses: no bread, grains, pasta, cereal, dairy products, red meat, cane sugar or corn syrup.

Fish and potatoes would work. In fact, the only traditional societies that do not depend on grasses (but do practice some form of agriculture) are on some islands in Micronesia. Every continental society and most island societies use some grass, if only sugar cane or bamboo.

In California native Americans have used native grasses for basketry, food, and seasonings, hats, sandals, and in many other ways.

Here are some California native grasses:

American slough grass  
Cane bluestem  
California fescue  
Common reed  
Deergrass  
Desert needlegrass  
Drooping woodreed  
Fowl manna  
Giant ryegrass  
Knot grass  
Knot-root bristlegrass

California melic  
Oldfield three-awn  
One-sided bluegrass  
Saltgrass  
Semaphore grass  
Slim tridens  
Squirreltail  
Tall trisetum  
Tufted hairgrass