PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Setaria viridis* (L.) P. Beauv.

**GENUS** *Setaria* **FAMILY** Poaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Green Foxtail, Green Pigeon grass

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are used like millet. They can be boiled, roasted or ground into flour. They are used in cakes and porridge.
The roasted seeds are also used as a coffee substitute.

## DESCRIPTION

An annual millet grass. It forms tufts. It can be 70-150 cm tall. The culms are usually bent at the lower nodes. The leaf blades are thin and flat in cross section. They are 5-30 cm long and 3-12 mm wide. The taper to a fine point. The flowers are bristly. The teeth of the bristles point upwards. It is similar to Setaria verticillata except for some flower details.

## HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is drought resistant. It can grow in arid places. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 1,000 m above sea level. In Sichuan. In Yunnan.

## NOTES

There are about 130 Setaria species. They are mainly in the tropics and subtropics. It is a widespread weedy plant.

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