



PLANT FACT SHEET

Hordeum jubatum L.

GENUS *Hordeum* FAMILY Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Foxtail Barley, Squirrel tail grass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are used as a cereal.

They are also parched and made into a coffee like drink.

DESCRIPTION

A grass plant. It grows 50-60 cm high and 25-30 cm wide. The leaves are mid-green. The flower head arches over to form a silky head with soft hairs. These are on erect stems. The flower spikelets are pale green at first and often have a red or purple flush.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is frost hardy. It can grow in salt marshes. It grows in meadows and moist places in north China. It suits hardiness zones 5-8.

NOTES

There are about 20 *Hordeum* species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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