

Plant Data Sheet: Fremont Silktassel (*Garrya fremontii*)**Range**

Fremont silktassel occurs in Washington, Oregon, and California. It is distributed along the Columbia River in Washington and Oregon, and in the Klamath Mountains and Coast Ranges from Josephine and Jackson counties, Oregon south to Monterey County, California. In the Cascade Range and Sierra Nevada, it occurs from from Lane County, Oregon south to Madera County, California. (2)

**Climate, elevation**

Fremont silktassel grows in a Mediterranean climate with cool, wet winters and hot, dry summers.

Fremont silktassel occurs from 2,500 to 7,000 feet. (2)

**Local occurrence**

It is distributed along the Columbia River in Washington, more abundant and/or less threatened than previously assumed. Fremont silktassel usually occurs as scattered individuals throughout the chaparral zone. (2)

**Habitat preferences**

Habitat topography includes rocky slopes, rolling hills, or steep canyons. (2)

**Plant strategy type/successional stage**

Fremont silktassel is found in all stages of succession.

The plant is a sprouting survivor in initial and early seral communities. It is shade tolerant and persists until late seral stages in foothill woodland and forest communities. Fremont silktassel seedlings are poor competitors, and their survival rate is low. (2)

**Associated species**

The associated species of Fremont silktassel include Coulter pine (*Pinus coulteri*), white fir (*Abies concolor*), deer oak (*Quercus sulleriana*), scrub oak (*Q. dumosa*), manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.), buckbrush (*Ceanothus cuneatus*), redbud (*Cercis occidentalis*), bushleaf mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), poison-oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*), soft cholla (*Bromas media*), foxtail Yucca (*Yucca magnifica*), coffee filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), and various clovers (*Trifolium* spp.) (2)

**May be collected as:**

Seed (2)

**Collection restrictions or guidelines**

Very slow, the seed can take 2 or more years to germinate.

Seed germination (needs dormancy breaking?)

Germination requires over winter stratification. (1)

**Seed life (can be stored, short shelf-life, long shelf-life)**

Information on seed life was not available.

**Recommended seed storage conditions**

Information on seed storage was not available.

**Propagation recommendations**

It is easily cultivated from stem cuttings or seed, and transplants well. Best sown as soon as it is ripe in a cold frame. (1)

**Soil or medium requirements**

Fremont silktassel grows in well-drained, slightly acidic, typic Xerochrept soil with 50 to 60 percent coarse fragment. (2)

**Installation form**

The plant strongly resents root disturbance and should be placed in its permanent position as soon as possible. (1)

**Recommended planting density**

Information on planting density was not available.

**Care requirements after installed**

Relatively little care is needed after installation. Regular watering is encouraged. (1)

**Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan**

At maturity, Fremont Silktassel will reach heights of 5 - 15'. (2)

**Sources cited**

(1) Permaculture Information Web. *Garrya fremontii*. <http://permaculture.info/cgi-bin/chen/plant-2921>. April 12, 2006

(2) USDA Forest Service. *Fire Effects Information Systems*: <http://www.fs.fed.us>. April 12, 2006

Data compiled by: Sarah Short 4/12/06