

Giant foxtail

Setaria faberi Herrm.

Life cycle

Erect summer annual.

Leaves

Leaves have dense short hairs on the upper surface. They are soft, rolled in the bud and up to 12 inches long. Leaf sheaths have hairs along the margins.



Giant foxtail collar region.

Ligule

Hairy.

Stems

Erect, mostly 3- to 7-foot-tall stems are branched and clump-forming at the base. Stems are usually round but are occasionally flattened in cross section.

Flowers and fruit

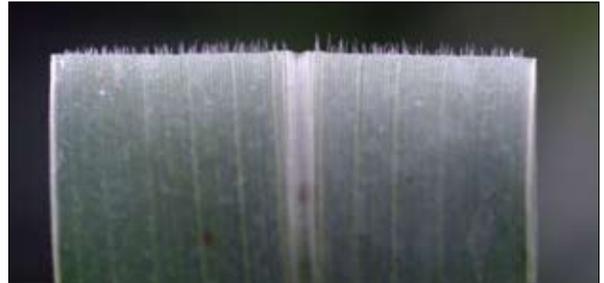
The seedhead is a dense, cylindrical-shaped, foxtail-like panicle with green to purple bristles. Highly nodding seedheads are capable of producing large numbers of oval to egg-shaped, yellowish brown seeds.

Reproduction

Seeds.



Giant foxtail seedhead.



Giant foxtail upper leaf surface.

Giant foxtail

Setaria faberi Herrm.

Similar weeds

Green foxtail (*S. viridis* L.)

Differs by having leaves that are hairless and rough to the touch, shorter stature – reaching only three feet tall, erect to slightly nodding panicles.



Green foxtail collar region.



Green foxtail seedhead.

Similar weeds

Yellow foxtail (*S. glauca* [L.] Beauv.)

Differs by having long, wispy hairs on the upper leaf surface near the stem, a panicle with yellowish brown bristles and a yellow to light brown seedhead at maturity.



Yellow foxtail seedling.



Yellow foxtail collar region.



Yellow foxtail seedhead.