Insert as an Additional Taxa For *Schizachyrium scoparium*.

*Andropogon glomeratus* (T. Walter) N. Britton, E. Sterns, & J. Poggenburg  **Bushy Bluestem**  
*(Andropogon virginicus var. abbreviatus, Cinna glomerata)*

- *Andropogon glomeratus* is also known as Brushy Bluestem or Bushy Beard Grass; Brushy Bluestem is an erect 2N to 5N tall clump-forming warm season perennial grass; it is native to the Southeastern U.S., west to California, and south into parts of the Caribbean; the plant generally resembles a larger more robust coarser textured version of *Schizachyrium scoparium*; the leaves and stems are a bit broader and coarser than those of *S. scoparium*, but like *S. scoparium* the foliage tends to be blue-green in summer and develop good color when entering dormancy in autumn.

- Although the foliage of *A. glomeratus* is attractive, plants really come into their aesthetic prime in late summer to fall when the showy silky white flower clusters contrast with the copper-bronze foliage; the seed heads remain effective late into autumn; this plant is more noticeable in flower than *S. scoparium*, and it is one of the most frequently requested grasses for identification each fall by novice wildflower enthusiasts.

- Unlike *S. scoparium* which grows on drier slopes and hillsides, *A. glomeratus* is frequently found in swales, drainage ditches, seasonal wet areas, and near water features; although tolerant of periodic drought once established, plants cope by going dormant, resuming growth when soil moisture returns; Bushy Bluestem is probably better adapted to most home gardens than Little Bluestem, because folks tend to overwater and *A. glomeratus* is more tolerant of this abuse; also, *A. glomeratus* shows good salt tolerance and can be used in coastal landscapes, although not right on the barrier dunes; this species will tolerate wet enough soils to be included in drier portions of bog garden plantings or along water features; *Andropogon glomeratus* is hardy in USDA zones 5 to 10.

- This is one of those species that grows on you and along with Little Bluestem is one of my favorite native grasses; one often finds the species in the same landscape, with *S. scoparium* occupying the high ground and *A. glomeratus* taking the low road; sort of the Jack Sprat and his wife of the grasses; the genus name derives from the Greek words for man (andros) and beard (pogon), alluding to the hairy spikelets of some species in the genus; the specific epithet alludes to the clustered seed heads.

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