

SEAOATS

Uniola paniculata

- The native Seaoats are protected in Florida and may be found along the beach dunes and mudflats.
- Seaoats naturally help prevent beach erosion.
- A pioneering plant, they rapidly colonize and tolerate seawater and salt spray.
- Its wide-spreading fibrous roots allow the plant to utilize minute amounts of moisture in the soil.
- Each plant develops a showy inflorescence about 5 feet tall.
- The oat-like fruit persists on the plant, giving the plant a nice texture as the wind blows. It spreads from rhizomes.
- It provides excellent habitat and a food source for small birds, mammals, and insects.
- The root system can grow up to 5 feet across and 5 feet deep. Its clumping habit collects, traps, and holds sand blown by the wind, resulting in dune formation and erosion control.
- It is illegal to collect plants from the wild without special permits.

