

Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*): This bunchgrass is one of the dominant grasses of the tallgrass prairie that once made up a large portion of Long Island called the Hempstead Plains. Little bluestem has skinny, flat, green leaves with a slight blue color at the base. It features beautiful clusters of fluffy, silvery-white seed heads and bronze-orange foliage in the fall to winter. Many insects feed on its foliage and these provide food to insectivorous birds. Its fuzzy white seeds are a valuable food source to small birds and native bees use the stems for nesting. It is also a larval host to many native butterflies.

