

# *Artemisia schmidtiana* 'Nana' - Silvermound Artemisia, Angels-Hair, or Wormwood (*Asteraceae*)

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*Artemisia schmidtiana* 'Nana' is a silver-foliaged, fine-textured, mounding, perennial that serves as an excellent edging plant.

## FEATURES

### Form

- small herbaceous perennial
- maturing at about 1' tall x 1.5' wide
- spreading mound growth habit



### Culture

- full sun to partial sun
- placement in moist, well-drained, relatively infertile soils in full sun prevents excessive vertical vegetative growth, which will usually keep the center of the foliage mound from unattractively opening up and separating by mid-summer
- if placed in fertile soils, the foliage may grow from 1-1.5' tall; in this case, clump splitting can be prevented or delayed by shearing the foliage back halfway in July, before flowering begins
- tolerant of poor soils, dry soils, heat, and drought
- propagated by crown division or by rooted stem cuttings
- Daisy Family, with stem rot or foliage rust under humid conditions being the 2 primary disease problems, and with no significant pest problems
- moderately available in containers

### Foliage

- alternate, silvery-green tomentose leaves arise from short stems, and are twice palmately divided into linear segments of extremely fine foliage texture
- autumn color remains silvery, until quickly dying back to the crown with the initial frosts



### Flowers

- inflorescences are silver in bud and yellow-white in flower, are small, sparse to non-existent, may be unnoticed above the silver foliage, are ornamentally insignificant, and bloom in Aug. (if at all)

### Fruits

- ornamentally insignificant

### Twigs

- not applicable

### Trunk

- not applicable

## USAGE

### Function

- edging, specimen, border, mass planting, rock garden, or focal point mounding perennial

### Texture

- very fine texture
- thick density

### Assets

- silver-colored, fine-textured foliage in a spreading mound form
- works well as a neutral spacer or framing plant, in combination with perennials whose flowers are mostly in the cool color range (pink, lavender, blue, purple, and even scarlet to maroon)
- fairly drought tolerant

### Liabilities

- foliage often splits apart in the center of the clump by mid-summer for mature-size clumps
- foliage may rot or rust under high humidity conditions

### Habitat

- Zones 3 to 7
- Native to Japan

## SELECTIONS

### Alternates

- herbaceous plants with silvery-gray foliage (*Antennaria dioica*, *Artemisia* species, *Cerastium tomentosum*, *Helichrysum petiolare*, *Perovskia atriplicifolia*, *Stachys byzantina*, etc.)

### Variants

- Artemisia schmidtiana* 'Nana' (also known as 'Silver Mound') - the standard form available, as described throughout this text; this is the only common *Artemisia* that has a prostrate growth habit, and is one of the few that is not invasive by underground rhizomes
- several species, cultivars, and hybrids of *Artemisia* exist, usually noteworthy as silver- or gray-foliaged perennials of various upright growth habits and medium to fine textures, often used as foliage perennials that mix well with cooler-colored perennials (those with pink, lavender, blue, or purple flowers, or even scarlet or maroon among the semi-warm colors)