**Spartina alterniflora** (Smooth Cordgrass)
- 1-8 ft
- August - October

**Spartina cynosuroides** (Big Cordgrass)
- up to 10 ft
- July - September

**Limonium spp.** (Sea Lavender)
- up to 3 ft
- July - October

**Aster tenuifolius** (Salt Marsh Aster)
- 1-4 ft
- July - September

**Juncus roemerianus** (Black Needle Rush)
- up to 3 ft
- April - October

**Scirpus robustus** (Salt Marsh Bulrush)
- 2-3 ft
- July - October

**Iva frutescens** (Marsh Elder)
- 2-6 ft
- August - October

**Baccharis halimifolia** (Groundsel Tree)
- up to 8 ft
- September - October

**Spartina patens** (Salt Meadow Hay)
- 1-3 ft
- July - September

**Distichlis spicata** (Salt Grass)
- 8-16 in
- July - September

**Panicum virgatum** (Switch Grass)
- up to 3 ft
- July - September

**Solidago sempervirens** (Seaside Goldenrod)
- 4-5 ft
- August - October
This basic field guide illustrates the most common plants in Virginia’s tidal salt marshes where the salinity range is between 10-25 ppt. Salt marsh vegetation is divided into zones based on the extent of tidal inundation. Each plant’s location in the marsh is indicated by the color that matches the zonation depicted in the cross-section. The most recognizable feature of each plant is also featured with illustrations and photographs.