

## Ornamental and Native Grasses p.1



**Big Bluestem** (*Andropogon gerardii*)- **Native.** Sun, H 5-8' (with inflorescence) x W 2'. Zones 3-9. Ornamental qualities, color changes from green to blue-green in summer, to deep red-bronze in fall.



**Bluebunch Wheatgrass** (*Pseudogeneria spicata*)- **Native.** Sun to part shade. H 18-48" (with inflorescence) Zones 3-7. Drought tolerant, cool season grass, goes dormant in late summer. Has a nice upright shape with green leaves and golden seed heads.



**Blue Fescue** (*Festuca glauca*)- **Native.** Sun. H 6-12" x W 6-18". Zones 4-8. Blue color that lasts all year, forms clumps with straw-colored seed heads. Don't cut back, comb out dead foliage in the spring.



**Blue Oat Grass** (*Helictotrichon sempervirens*)- Zones 4-9. Drought tolerant. H and W 2-3'. Full sun. Do not cut back, comb out dead foliage in the spring. Beautiful blue color with airy golden seed heads rising above.



**Bottlebrush Squirreltail** (*Elymus elymoides*)- **Native.** Zones 3-9. Prefers full sun. 8"-25" tall with inflorescence. Cool season grass, emerges and blooms in spring to early summer. Drought tolerant, fire resistant. Can spread by seed. Bright green with bristly seedhead that resembles a squirrel's tail or a bottlebrush. Domestic and wildlife forage, especially when the plant is young.

## Ornamental and Native Grasses 2026 p.2



**Idaho Fescue** (*Festuca Idahoensis*)- **Native**. Sun. H 12-24" x W 8-10". Zones 4-8. Small evergreen clump forming grass. Drought tolerant and deer resistant. Excellent for erosion control.



**Indian Rice Grass** (*Achnatherum hymenoides*)-**Native**. Sun. 8-30" (with inflorescence) x W 18-24". Zones 3-9. Seeds are edible, fixes nitrogen in the soil. Seed pods can be used in flower arrangements.



**Karl Foerster** (*Calamagrostis acutifolia*)- Zones 5-11. Sun. H 4-6' (with inflorescence) x W 2-3'. Clump forming cool season grass. Dramatic red bronze seed spikes in early summer. Drought tolerant.



**Little Bluestem** (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). **Native**. Zones 3-10. Sun (has a tendency to flop in too much shade). H 12-24". Foliage is blue, occasionally with pinkish purple striations, topped by fluffy silvery gold or white seed heads. Turns reddish or coppery color with frost.



**Pine Grass** (*Calamagrostis rubescens*). **Native**. H 24-36". Drought tolerant, clump forming. Host plant for a variety of moths and butterflies.



**Prairie Junegrass** (*Koeleria macrantha*) **Native.** Zones 4-10. H 6-24" (with inflorescence) x W 12-24". Cool season bunchgrass, goes dormant in summer. Blooms yellow in early spring.



**Switchgrass** (*Panicum virgatum*). Zones 3-9. H 14-55" (with inflorescence). Full sun to part shade, drought tolerant and deer resistant. Warm season grass, shows new growth in late spring/early summer. Attractive upright grass with airy seed heads.



**Tufted Hair Grass** (*Deschampsia cespitosa*) **Native.** Zones 4-8. H 12-36" (with inflorescence) x W 12-24". Part sun, drought tolerant. Clumping ornamental has fine hair-like seed heads that rise 2-3 feet above the clump. Larval plant food for several butterflies.



**Sweetgrass** (*Hierochloa odorata*) **Native.** Zones 3-9. Prefers full sun to light shade and moist, but not wet, soil. Grows 10-24" tall with inflorescence. Spreads by underground rhizomes. Has a light vanilla fragrance. Considered sacred by many Indigenous Peoples. Used as a smudge in herbal medicine, and ceremonially in North American Indigenous cultures to attract good spirits and to carry prayers to the Great Spirit.



**Mexican Feather Grass** (*Nasella tenuissima*). Zones 7a-10b. Part shade to full sun. Drought tolerant. 12-24" tall x 20-24" wide. This non-native grass typically won't survive our winter, but it will come back in the spring by seed. It is a prolific re-seeder but is shallow rooted so unwanted seedlings are easy to pull out. Very light, feathery seedheads move gently in the breeze, creating movement in the garden.