

ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Andropogon gerardii

Height: 4-7'
Spread: 2-3'

Big Bluestem

Foliage: Silvery-blue
Zone: 4-10



A native North American prairie grass forming a large clump of silvery-blue foliage. The purplish flower spikes emerge in August and September, producing curiously shaped seed heads that resemble upside-down turkey feet. Color highlights on foliage range from green to blue green and silvery blue in the summer, to red, orange and purple in the fall. Clump forming, warm season. Drought tolerant. Rain garden plant.

***Andropogon gerardii* 'Silver Sunrise'**

Height: 4-6'
Spread: 2-3'

Silver Sunrise Big Bluestem

Foliage: Silvery-blue
Zone: 4-10



Outstanding, colorful cultivar selected by Dr. Donald Steinegger of the University of Nebraska Hort. Dept. Its showy blue, basal foliage with rich purple fall color is contrasted with wide, golden bands in the flowering culms. * 2006 *GreatPlants Release*

***Bouteloua curtipendula* 'Trailway'**

Height: 16-32"
Spread: 18"

Sideoats Grama

Foliage: Gray green
Zone: 4-10



Fine leaf, sod-forming, warm season native. Delicate, pendant seed heads above graceful foliage. Great fall color: purple, orange, and red. Drought and soil tolerant. Ideal for masses or meadows. *

2005 *GreatPlants Winner*

Bouteloua gracilis

Height: 16-20"
Spread: 18"

Blue Grama

Foliage: Green
Zone: 4-9



A drought-tolerant native ground cover that can be a substitution for typical lawns. Long, one sided seed spikes with eyelash-like inflorescence above curly, narrow leaves. Warm season, flowers in June. *

2008 *GreatPlants Winner*

Calamagrostis brachytricha

Height: 42"
Spread: 30"

Korean Reed Grass

Foliage: Green
Zone: 4-9



A clump-forming, warm season grass that produces pink feathery plumes in the fall. In September, elegant flowers appear with a touch of pink, later turning bronze. Handles shady areas well and can tolerate hot summers. Beautiful as a specimen plant or in masses. * 2007 *GreatPlants Winner*

***Carex morrowii* 'Ice Dance'**

Height: 12"
Spread: 12-18"

Ice Dance Sedge

Foliage: Variegated
Zone: 5-8



Versatile sedge that can be planted in sun or shade. Bright white variegation runs along its leaf margins. Spreads by rhizomes and works great as a ground cover or as a single specimen plant. Leaves are 1/2 inch wide. Insignificant flowers. Best in moist soils.

Chasmanthium latifolium

Height: 3'
 Spread: 1-2'

Northern Sea Oats

Foliage: Green
 Zone: 5-10



This US native produces a multitude of beautiful pale green seed heads in midsummer that are reminiscent of the sea oats at the beach. It is a tall ground cover that grows in just about any situation: sun, shade, wet or dry. Great landscape solution for dry shade. Will re-seed. Warm season. Flowers in June. * 2008 *GreatPlants Winner*

Eragrostis trichodes

Height: 3'
 Spread: 2-3'

Sand Love Grass

Foliage: Green
 Zone: 5



Lovely, delicate, warm season, native bunchgrass with arching seed heads.

***Festuca glauca* 'Elijah Blue'**

Height: 6-10"
 Spread: 8-12"

Elijah Blue Fescue

Foliage: Bright blue
 Zone: 4-7



A cool season grass with striking, fine-textured blue foliage. Use as an accent, in small groups and as a group cover. Grows in a dense clump. Tan-beige flowers in June, grown primarily for foliage. Does best in dry soils.

Miscanthus sinensis

Height: 7-8'
 Spread: 5'

Chinese Silver Miscanthus

Foliage: Green
 Zone: 5



Silvery-white inflorescence in fall. Warm season grass.

Miscanthus sinensis* var. *purpurascens

Height: 3-4'
 Spread: 2'

Autumn Red Miscanthus

Foliage: Green
 Zone: 5-9



An erect clumping grass that is beautiful in the smaller garden. Flowers in July. In early fall, its magenta blooms turn white and foliage turn vivid reddish orange. Warm season. Best in dry soils. *

2006 GreatPlants Winner

***Panicum virgatum* 'Heavy Metal'**

Height: 4-5'
 Spread: 2-3'

Blue Switchgrass

Foliage: Blue green
 Zone: 5-9



Strongly glaucous, blue leaves are strictly upright. Never leans or flops, even in heavy rain. Blooms in fall, with strong pink tones in inflorescence. Fine specimen with yellow fall color. Warm season

***Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind'**


Height: 4-5'
 Spread: 2-3'


Upright Switchgrass


Foliage: Blue green
 Zone: 4-9





This cultivar has beautiful blue green foliage and an upright growth habit. It is fast growing and tolerates dry to boggy soils in sun or part sun. Produces a multitude of narrow open panicles from August to September. Great specimen or background plant that adds a vertical accent. Warm season


<p><i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Shenandoah' Height: 4' Spread: 2'</p>	<p>Upright Switchgrass Foliage: Green w/ streaks of red Zone: 5</p>	
<p>This is a spectacular switchgrass. Its red-tinted foliage is dazzling during the growing season and becomes even more beautiful in the fall: dark red leaf tones in July, burgundy in August, to wine colored in September. Striking contrast plant. Good substitute for Japanese Bloodgrass. A personal favorite! * 2009 <i>GreatPlants Winner</i></p>		


<p><i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> Height: 24-36" Spread: 18-24"</p>	<p>Little Bluestem Foliage: Multi-colored Zone: 3-9</p>	
<p>This native grass grows in loose clusters and branches out at the top. Leaves are green, blue or purple, and turn reddish orange in the fall. Looks great planted in groups. Tolerates poor soil and drought. Warm season. Flowers September. * 1998 <i>GreatPlants Winner</i></p>		

<p><i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> 'Blaze' Height: 36" Spread: 18-24"</p>	<p>Blaze Little Bluestem Foliage: Multi-colored Zone: 4</p>	
<p>Very similar to the straight species, but more of a russet-red color through the fall and winter.</p>		

<p><i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> Height: 4-5' Spread: 1-2'</p>	<p>Indiangrass Foliage: Green Zone: 3</p>	
<p>One of the major native tall prairie grasses and one of the most beautiful. Foliage has an arching shape and six-foot feathery, golden plumes emerge in August. Warm season, drought tolerant. *2004 <i>GreatPlants Winner</i></p>		

<p><i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> 'Indian Steel' Height: 32-42" Spread: 24-32"</p>	<p>Indian Steel Indiangrass Foliage: Blue-green Zone: 4</p>	
<p>Strong, upright grower with blue-green foliage.</p>		

<p><i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> Height: 24" Spread: 12"</p>	<p>Prairie Dropseed Foliage: Green Zone: 3</p>	
<p>Once one of the major components of the Midwestern prairie, now becoming a popular landscape plant. This clumping, warm season grass flowers in July with delicate, fragrant open panicles. Turns orange in the fall. Thrives in sunny, dry locations. Incredibly attractive in bloom and seed. Extremely heat and drought tolerant. * <i>2003 GreatPlants Winner</i></p>		

<p><i>Sporobolus wrightii</i> Height: 3-4' Spread: 2'</p>	<p>Giant Sacaton Grass Foliage: Green Zone: 4</p>	
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Stunning, feathery, branched seed heads above graceful arching foliage. Great 'see through' plant, vigorous grower. Drought resistant once established.