

Currently Available

- Acorus g. variegatus
Variegated Japanese Sweet Flag
- Arundo donax (2 varieties)
Giant Reed Grass
- Calamagrostis (4 Varieties)
Feather Reed Grass
- Carex cultivars
Sedge Grass
- Chasmanthium latifolium
Northern Sea Oats
- Cortaderia selloana cultivars
Pampas Grass
- Deschampsia cespitosa
Tufted Hair Grass
- Erianthus (Saccharum)
Plume Grass
- Festuca (2 varieties)
Blue Fescue
- Hakonechloa m. 'Aureola'
Golden Variegated Hakone Grass
- Helictotrichon s. 'Sapphire'
Blue Oats Grass
- Imperata c. 'Red Baron'
Japanese Blood Grass
- Miscanthus (18 varieties)
- Molinia c. 'Skyracer'
Tall Purple Moor Grass
- Ophiopogon (2 varieties)
Mondo Grass
- Panicum (7 varieties)
Switch Grass
- Pennisetum (8 varieties)
Fountain Grass
- Phalaris (2 varieties)
Ribbon Grass
- Schizachyrium
Little Bluestem



The Beauty of Ornamental Grasses

Ornamental Grasses are attractive landscape plants that can give gardens a new look.

- **Very few insect or disease problems**
- **Low nutrient requirements**
- **Little maintenance once established**
- **More than one season of interest flowering in spring, summer, or fall with beauty and color lasting into winter**
- **Fast growth, some grow 5 to 8 feet in the first year**
- **Varied textures, from fine fescues to giant miscanthus**
- **Foliage colors of blue, green, yellow, bronze, red and variegated**

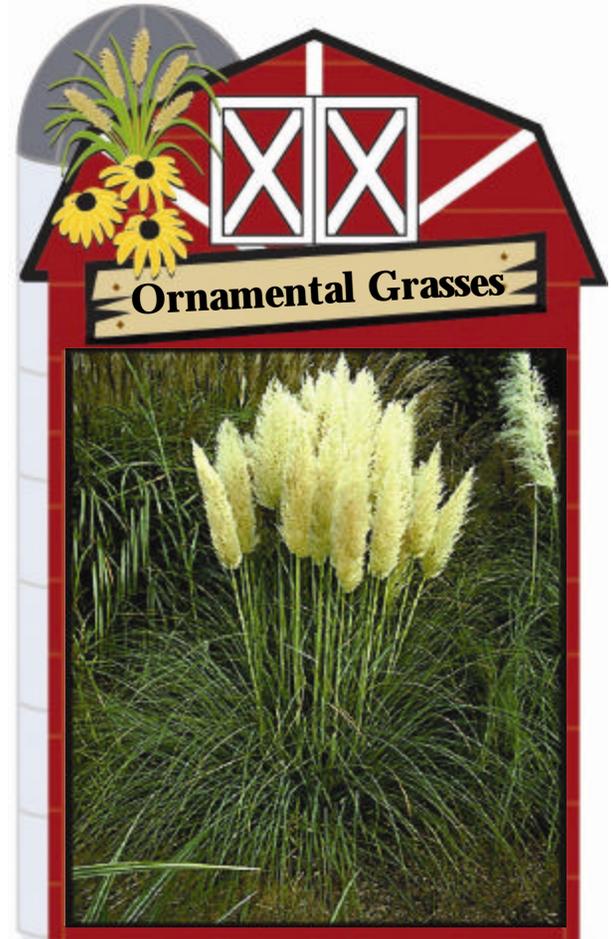


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Ornamental Grasses



Ornamental grasses have gained tremendous popularity over the last 10 years. Their graceful beauty, varied form, colors and textures make them attractive for planting in gardens and landscapes.

For detailed plant information visit
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Why

Ornamental Grasses

One of the most exciting trends in contemporary American landscaping is the recent availability of a wide variety of ornamental grasses. Grasses offer more than longevity and low maintenance; they bring movement, fall and winter pizzazz, lush volume, texture and line, even sound, to any situation. The design possibilities are mind-boggling!



Plant grasses for a stunning effect in groups by themselves, with wildflowers for a stylized meadow, as a transition area between surrounding fields or woods and the garden proper, or be even bolder and bring some into the perennial bed for vertical excitement.. Think of them as shrub substitutes for hedges and semi-transparent screens, as specimens to contrast with rocks and boulders, and by all means, place a few at water's edge. Plant grasses for best effect by back-lighting, so that every tiny



seed and hair-like filament seems illuminated from within. Ornamental grasses are unbeatable fresh or dried in arrangements, with flowers or by themselves.

Ornamental Grasses are adaptable and grow in virtually every environment you can think of. They thrive from seaside to mountaintop and every place in between. From the seasoned gardener to the novice there is a grass that will stimulate your imagination and tickle your fancy.

How to Use

Ornamental Grasses

Nothing is as gorgeous and effective as ornamental grasses backlit by the sun. When you garden with ornamental grasses, color ceases to be the main goal, while form, texture, scale, year-round interest and translucency become more important functions. Grasses extend your garden's beauty from the spring and summer months right through to the snows of deep winter.

They are perfect for our mid-Atlantic weather where heat, humidity and drought dominate the summer. They seem to literally thrive on neglect. They handle pollution, require no fertilization or mulching, do best in plain well drained soil, and prefer dry conditions instead of over-watering. When flower gardens look tired at the end of summer, grasses' intense fall colors and their blooms are strikingly beautiful. Covered later on with a blanket of snow, nothing evokes the nostalgic essence of summer-past than the lovely beige foliage of your ornamental grasses.



To prevent rotting during the rainy season, plant ornamental grasses high enough to ensure drainage away from the base of the plant. Wait until late winter, then shear ruthlessly to 4-6 inches from the ground. Once established, most grasses will reward you by being drought-heat resistant and will thrive for years.

Selection of Ornamental Grasses

Native American Grasses

Chasmanthium, Deschampsia, Panicum, Phalaris, Schizachyrium

Water's Edge

Acorus, Arundo donax, Calamagrostis, Miscanthus, Phalaris

Screening

Arundo, Calamagrostis, Cortaderia, Erianthus, Miscanthus

Fall Color

Calamagrostis, Molinia, Panicum 'Shenandoah' & 'Rostraltbusch', Chasmanthium, Miscanthus s. purpurascens

Drought Tolerant

Arundo Donax, Cortaderia, Miscanthus, Pennisetum, Carex varieties, Festuca, Panicum, Chasmanthium, Schizachyrium

Moisture Tolerant

Acorus, Calamagrostis, Deschampsia, Panicum, Phalaris, Arundo donax, Chasmanthium, Erianthus, Pennisetum s 'Rubrum'

When growing perennial grasses, the gardener needs to know the final size of the plant. From 8-10" Blue Fescue to 12-14' Giant Miscanthus, grasses have many functions based on size. Some grasses spread their roots by rhizomes that make them useful for erosion control and as a ground cover. This may be what you wish to achieve. It may also make it difficult to remove from the wrong location in your garden. Medium size grasses (2-4') combine well with lots of flowering perennials and big (5-12') graceful grasses have a variety of shapes and colors. In the back part of a garden the bigger grasses can function as a tree or shrub. They can also work as a screen, hedge, or as striking specimens all by themselves.