

PRAIRIE BEAUTY WITH NATIVE ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>SPACING</u>	<u>SUN</u>	<u>SOIL</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>MOW</u>
Alkali Sacaton (<u>Sporobolus airoides</u>) Arching, green foliage and delicate, June heads above, really loves the wind Extremely salt-tolerant, useful on drilling reclamation sites. Compliments Gulf Muhly.	5	3 feet	full-part	heavy clay, salty, sand	occasionally, not often	warm	5' heads 3'x4' foliage	winter
Bamboo/Maidencane (<u>Arundinaria gigantea</u>) Our only true bamboo, flowers rarely, tall stalks, foliage raggedy but fan-shaped. Spreads aggressively from tough rhizomes, acid-soil selection.	7	2-6 feet	part-ful, dappled	moist, well-drained	occasionally	evergreen	4-12 feet	trim rarely
Big Bluestem (<u>Andropogon gerardii</u> subsp. <u>gerardii</u>) Selections have pastel-blue foliage, or green and vibrant purple; heads are forked like birds' feet, on slender stalks, bunch or short rhizomes	4	2-3 feet	full-part	well-drained sand or clay	to establish, more if west of I-35	warm	5-6 feet	winter
Sand Bluestem <u>A. gerardii</u> subsp. <u>hallii</u>) Selection has pastel-blue foliage, arching rhizomes, very drought-tolerant. Has very hairy inflorescence, otherwise much like Big Bluestem.	4	2-3 feet	full	well-drained sand or clay	ONLY to establish	warm	5-6 feet	winter
Bushy Bluestem (<u>A. glomeratus</u>) Strong, cinnamon, winter foliage, green in summer, bunch, outstanding fluffy fall heads Sometimes a weak perennial	5	18 inches	full	moist to wet never flooded	regularly	warm	3-6 feet (water-dependant)	early spring
Splitbeard Bluestem (<u>A. ternarius</u>), soft summer mound, fluffy "V"s along stems in fall, bronzed in winter	7	12 inches	full	well-drained sand	sparingly, once estd.	warm	2.5-4 feet	winter
Broomsedge Bluestem (<u>A. virginicus</u>) Green in summer, brilliant orange in winter, bunch, medium texture. Sometimes a weak perennial.	5	1-2 feet	full	moist, but well-drained	to establish, as needed	warm	3.5-5 feet	winter

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Little Bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> var. <i>frequens</i>) Selection is a strong, blue bunch, striking vertical in summer, cinnamon-brown in winter. Water ONLY to establish!	4	6-18 inches	full	well-drained clay or sand	ONLY to establish or if droughty	warm	3-6 feet	late winter
Sand Dunes Little Bluestem (<i>S. scoparium</i> var. <i>littoralis</i>) The only variety of the species with rhizomes in Texas, thrives On our barrier islands and coastal dunes. Extremely fluffy heads in late fall, blue-tinted foliage.	7	18 inches	full	sand dunes ONLY on the coast	ONLY to establish	warm	4-5 feet	late winter
Cherokee Caric Sedge (<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>) Aggressively filling, robust bunch-form with moderately coarse, lime-green foliage, tolerates direct sun, heads like hanging lanterns	6	18 inches	full-part	clay or sand	occasionally for green	cool	18-24 inches	fall
William Emory Sedge (<i>Carex emoryi</i>) Extremely aggressive from rhizomes, shoreline stabilization, wetlands, arching green foliage.	7	24 inches	full	shoreline only	will survive drought	cool	3 feet	early
Melines Leavenworth Caric Sedge (<i>C. leavenworthii</i>) Fine-textured, shade-dependent, aggressively filling, bunch-form with streaming, lime-green foliage	6	12 inches	shade-part	clay or sand under trees	occasionally for green	cool	1 foot	fall
Crow-foot Caric Sedge (<i>C. crus-corvi</i>) Striking blue-tinted foliage and golden heads, a robust bunch-form, tolerates dry-down and flooding, spreads rapidly from seeds.	6	24 inches	full	wet	regularly summer dormant	cool	24"	fall
Canada Wildrye (<i>Elymus canadensis</i>) Heads delicate, wheatlike, the "Weeping" type bent over, pretty in wind, bunch	4	6-18 inches	full-part (weeping) full to shade (upright)	well-drained sand or clay	to establish more in a dry winter	cool	3-4 feet	winter
Virginia Wildrye (<i>Elymus virginicus</i>) Heads shorter, more robust, awns short or lacking, forms thick colonies in riparian habitats under trees.	4	6-18 inches	shade-part	well-drained sand or clay	to establish more in a dry winter	cool	3 feet	winter
Clubhead Cutgrass (<i>Leersia hexandra</i>) Aggressive, rhizomatous, excellent shoreline stabilization, spreads fast from seeds and rhizomes	6	18 inches	full	moist-boggy shorelines	regularly, flooded	warm	1.5-2 feet	winter
Whitegrass (<i>L. virginica</i>) Aggressive, rhizomatous, excellent shoreline stabilization in shade	6	1 foot	shade-part	moist shorelines	occasionally	warm	1.5 feet	winter

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Coastal Cordgrass (<i>Spartina spartinae</i>) Bunch, prickly leaf tips, evergreen foliage, purpled in winter, very salt-tolerant, spike-like inflorescence	7	2.5 feet	full-part	wet/moist	regularly	warm	2-3 feet	winter
Prairie Cordgrass (<i>S. pectinata</i>) Arching, saw-edged foliage, erosion control, deep rhizomes, stops beavers	5	6 feet	full-part	wet/moist flooded areas	survives droughts well	warm	4-6 feet	winter
Giant Cordgrass (<i>S. cyanosuroides</i>) A larger version of Prairie Cordgrass, very similar in appearance.	7	6 feet	full	wet/moist tidal flats	regularly	warm	6-8 feet	winter
Common Reed (<i>Phragmites australis</i>) Tall, graceful canes topped by purple plumes, white winter flags, extreme rhizomes, erosion control, NOT for small areas!	4	10 feet	full-part (shorter in shade)	mucky to 1 foot water, shorelines	start in water let it grow out & above	warm	6-12 feet	winter
Eastern Gamagrass (<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>) Luxuriant foliage, tasseled heads, bunch. Winter cinnamon: tall and short forms Regular: tall and short forms. All excellent erosion control and for wetlands	5	3 feet	full-part	heavy clay, wet sand, moist	to establish, regularly if not moist	warm	4-8 feet	late winter
Deer Muhly (<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>) Large, green, soft mound of trailing foliage, fall heads slim, gray cigars	7	3 feet	full	moist or heavy clays	regularly	warm	2-3'(leaves) 4'(heads)	winter
Gulf Muhly (<i>M. capillaris</i>) A brilliant, lacy, mauve-topped bunch, excellent fall color, delicate in winter	6-7	18-24 inches	full	well-drained	regularly	warm	3 feet	winter
Lindheimer's Muhly (<i>M. lindheimeri</i>) Large, blue-green, soft mound of trailing foliage, fall heads a halo of feathers	7	3 feet	full	moist or heavy clays	regularly	warm	2-4'(leaves) 4-6'(heads)	winter
Seep Muhly (<i>M. reverchonii</i>) Bunch, lighter fall color than Gulf Muhly. Fully winter dormant, more formal, with short, blue-tinted foliage.	5	2 feet	full	well-drained, sand or clay	to establish, as needed	warm	to 2.5 feet	winter

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Blue Grama (<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i>) Delicate, dancing eyebrows over very fine-textured, luxuriant foliage, bunchgrass, “dryscapes”	5	6-12 inches	full	very dry (raised bed east of I-35)	to establish	warm	2-2.5 feet	winter
Sideoats Grama (<i>B. curtipendula</i> var. <i>caespitosa</i>) The STATE GRASS , all “oats” to one side on heads, bunch, “dryscapes”	4	6-24 inches	full-part	dry to extremely dry	ONLY to establish	warm	1’ foliage 3’ heads	winter
Tall Grama (<i>B. pectinata</i>) 1-4 side branches on heads produced well above the short foliage, leaves hairy on the margins, tight bunch.	6	6-12 inches	full	dry to extremely dry	ONLY to establish	warm	6” foliage 24” heads	winter
Sand Lovegrass (<i>E. trichodes</i> ‘ Mason Sandhill ’) Lush foliage topped by lacy, waving heads, very striking in wind, bunch	5	2-3 feet	full-part	well-drained	sparingly once estd.	warm	2’ foliage 4’ heads	winter
Hooded Windmillgrass (<i>Chloris cucullata</i>) 3-inch-wide windmills over upright stems, bunch, cute, excellent in “dryscapes”	5	1 foot	full-part	excellent drainage	ONLY to establish	warm	2-2.5 feet	winter
Tumble Windmillgrass (<i>C. verticillata</i>) 7-9-inch-wide windmills over a sprawling bunch form, slight blue tint to foliage Excellent in “dryscapes”, takes dew very well in the fall.	5	1 foot	full-part	well-drained sand or clay	ONLY to establish	warm	18 inches	early winter
Hanging Bulrush (<i>Scirpus pendulus</i>) Stiff, green foliage supports arching, bronzed, umbrella-like heads in the spring.	6	1 foot	full	moist to flooded	only in droughts	cool	3 feet	Aug.
Indiangrass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>) Aggressive rhizomes, which are easily controlled, stiff, blue blades on selections, yellow fall tassel, erosion control	4	2-3 feet	full	well-drained	to establish, more if west of I-35	warm	2-3 feet (foliage) 5-8 feet (tassels)	winter
Inland Seoats (Broadleaf/Northern Woodoats) (<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>), almost tropical foliage under hanging bangles, short rhizomes, erosion control in shade	4	18-24 inches	shade	well-drained sand or clay	regularly if not streamside	warm	3-3.5 feet	winter
Southwestern Bristlegrass (<i>S. scheelei</i>) “dryscapes”, pyramidal, feathery heads, excellent dried, lush foliage, bunch, seeds for wildlife	5	2 feet	full-part	dry	sparingly, once estd.	warm	2-3 feet	winter

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Longspike Tridens (<i>Tridens strictus</i>) Long, golden “cigars” over bunch foliage, golden in late fall, strong winter vertical	7	18 inches	full	moist sand or clay	regularly if W of I-35	warm	3.5-4 feet	late winter
Lowland Switchgrass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>) Erosion control, vigorous foliage topped by lacy, plumes; foliage green or silver-blue; winter character, screen or backdrop, bunch Green selections can have vigorous cinnamon winter color.	4	3-4 feet	full	moist	regularly	warm	5-8 feet	late winter
Texas Wintergrass (<i>Nasella leucotricha</i>) Fine-textured, close bunch form, seeds resemble spears, essential restoration grass	5	18 inches	full-part	well-drained sand or clay	ONLY to establish	cool	2 feet	late spring
Mexican Feathergrass (<i>N. tenuissima</i>) “Dryscapes”, very fine-textured bunch, spun-gold head in early summer	4	18-24 inches	full-part	extremely dry	ONLY to establish	cool	2.5-3 feet	fall
Purple Threeawn (<i>Aristida purpurea</i> var. <i>purpurea</i>) “Dryscapes”, very fine-textured bunch, April-May purple, faded foliage excellent. Compliments Mexican Feathergrass very well.	6	18-24 inches	full	extremely dry	ONLY to establish	warm	2.5 feet	late winter
Silver Plumegrass (<i>Saccharum alopecuroidium</i>) Silver-purple plumes dry very well, bronze in winter, strongly columnar	7	3 feet	full	wet feet wetlands	regularly if not wet	warm	9-10 feet	early spring
Texas Bluegrass (<i>Poa arachnifera</i>) Boat-shaped leaf tips, very aggressive from rhizomes, but not killer competitive. Heads extremely early in the springtime, very delicate and fluffy.	5	18 inches	full-part	well-drained sand or clay	regularly to keep green	cool	2 feet	late spring

IMPORTED ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ZONE</u>	<u>SPACING</u>	<u>SUN</u>	<u>SOIL</u>	<u>WATER</u>	<u>SEASON</u>	<u>HEIGHT</u>	<u>MOW</u>
Weeping Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>) African, Excellent, fine-textured bunch; loves wind, shimmers, “dryscapes”, lacy heads	5	2 feet	full-part	well-drained	sparingly, once estd.	warm	18” foliage 3’ heads	late winter
Willmann’s Lovegrass (<i>E. superba</i>) African Arching bunch, upright, bangled heads, “dryscapes”, very showy	7	1.5-2 feet	full	extremely dry	ONLY to establish	warm	to 3.5 feet	winter
Blue Fescue ‘Boulder Blue’ (<i>Festuca ovina</i> ‘glauca’) Silvery-blue foliage, low, bunch, great in winter, sensitive to summer heat, try shading then.	4	1 foot	full-part	VERY well-drained	regularly	cool	18”	fall

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Giant Japanes Silver Grass 4 4 feet full moist-wet regularly warm 12'+ winter
(Miscanthus giganteus)
 Truly a giant, cornlike perennial topping 12 feet if well-irrigated, huge white fan-heads topping in fall, bunch

Japanese Silver Grass

<i>(Miscanthus sinensis)</i> 'Adagio'	6	1.5 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	3-3.5 feet	winter
Silvery, pendant foliage, bunch, topped by white, midsummer plumes, dwarf								
'Gracillimus'	5	2-3 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	6.5 feet	winter
Ascending green, narrow foliage topped by red, late plumes, massive								
'Graziella'	5	2-3 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	7 feet	winter
Ascending green, narrow foliage, striking golden-red fall color								
'Silberspinne'	5	2-3 feet	full-part	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	to 6 feet	winter
Ascending, gray-green, narrow foliage topped by pinkish, midsummer plumes								
'Strictus'	5	3-4 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	to 9 feet	winter
Upright, cross-striped foliage and stems topped by white, late plumes								
'Undine'	5	2 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	to 6 feet	winter
Ascending, narrow, silver-green foliage topped by outstanding, white, midsummer plumes, very showy								
'Variegatus'	5	3 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	7 feet	winter
Cascading bunch, medium-textured, variegated leaves								

Other Miscanthus cultivars available by contract-grow, any numbers, if starters available.

Fountaingrass (*Pennisetum alopecuroides*)

'Hameln'/'Dwarf Fountaingrass'	6	1.5 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	to 3 feet	winter
Pendant, green, narrow foliage topped by purplish-white bottlebrushes								
'Moudry'/'Black Fountaingrass'	6	1.5 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	2-3 feet	winter
Pendant, verdantly green foliage topped by intensely purple, late bottlebrushes <i>Requires regular and heavy watering</i>								

Ravengrass

<i>(Saccharum ravennum)</i>	7	4 feet	full	wet feet	regularly	warm	10-15 feet	early spring
White plumes over a coarse pile of tall foliage, light tan in winter, invasive to wetlands, bunchgrass <i>Requires regular and heavy watering</i>								

ORNAMENTAL NATIVE PLANTS

SPECIES	ZONE	SPACING	SUN	SOIL	WATER	SEASON	HEIGHT	MOW
Elderberry (<u>Sambucus nigra</u> var. <u>canadensis</u>) Coarse foliage with large clusters of tiny white spring flowers, sweet purple berries follow, aggressive from rhizomes, wetlands	6	6 feet	full-part	well-drained moist	regularly	warm	to 12 feet	trim if need
Giant Coneflower (<u>Rudbeckia maxima</u>) Coarse, glaucous-blue foliage in winter, resembles blue cabbage, ascending late spring, topped by brown “thumb” ringed by yellow “petals”	6	2 feet	full	well-drained moist	regularly	cool	5-8 feet	early fall
Halberd-leaf Hibiscus (<u>Hibiscus laevis</u>) Tripointed leaves, lanky stems, large white flowers with maroon centers, takes 2’ of water	5	3-4 feet	full	moist to flooded	regularly	warm	7 feet	winter
Horsetail Reed (<u>Equisetum hymale</u>) Coarse, ascending, jointed stalks, very aggressive from rhizomes, primitive, strong vertical effect	6	1.5-2 feet	full-part	well-drained moist	regularly	evergreen	4 feet	winter
Dwarf Horsetail Reed (Possibly <u>E. laevigatum</u>) Shorter, with thinner stems, still aggressive from rhizomes. For shorter and shaded landscapes, semi-tropical appearance.	6	1 foot	full-part	well-drained moist	regularly	evergreen	3 feet maximum	winter
Lizard-tail (<u>Saururus cernuus</u>) Coarse, arum-like foliage on ascending stalks; aggressive from rhizomes; wetland mitigation; striking white, pendant inflorescence	7	2 feet	full-part	boggy	regularly if not wet	warm	3 feet	early winter
Sawtooth Sunflower (<u>Helianthus grosseserratus</u>) Tall with glorious sprays of yellow sunflowers in fall, Monarch Butterfly food source	6	6-10 feet	full	moist to flooded	regularly if not wet	warm	12-20’	winter
Spring Obedient Plant (<u>Physostegia intermedia</u>) Square stems, opposite leaves topped by vividly pink flowers that bees flock to. Excellent spring accent, spreads from true root sprouts, no rhizomes. <i>Completely dormant in the summer.</i>	7	18 inches	full	moist to boggy	regularly in spring	cool	3 feet	June

WETLAND/ShORELINE STABILIZATION PLANTS(SUN)

Bushy Bluestem
 “Upright” Canada Wildrye
 Clubhead Cutgrass
 Common Reed
 Eastern Gamagrass
 Lindheimer Muhly
 Longspike Silver Bluestem
 Longspike Tridens
 Lowland Switchgrass
 Coastal Cordgrass
 Prairie Cordgrass
 Silver Plumegrass
 Elderberry
 Halberd-leaf Hibiscus
 Horsetail
 Lizard-tail
 Sawtooth Sunflower
 Spring Obedient Plant
 Knotroot Bristlegrass

DRYSCAPES/DESERT/ROCKY SOILS

Blue Grama
 Hooded and Tumble Windmillgrass
 Little Bluestem
 Pinhole Bluestem
 Tall Grama
 Mexican Feathergrass
 Purple Threeawn
 Sideoats Grama
 Southwestern Bristlegrass
 Weeping Lovegrass
 Willmann’s Lovegrass

**MESIC SOILS, DON’T NEED WATER IF NO DROUGHT
(eastern 2/3 of Texas)**

Big Bluestem	Sand Lovegrass
Bigtop Lovegrass	Sideoats Grama
Either Canada Wildrye	Southwestern Bristlegrass
Indiangrass	Splitbeard Bluestem(sand only)
Little Bluestem	Weeping Lovegrass
Upland Switchgrass	Tumble Windmillgrass
Virginia Wildrye	

WETLAND/ShORELINE STABILIZATION(SHADE TO PART-SHADE)

Emory Sedge, Cedar Caric Sedge, Cherokee Caric Sedge
 “Upright” Canada Wildrye
 Virginia Wildrye
 Whitegrass
 Common Reed
 Eastern Gamagrass
 Inland Seoats
 Coastal Cordgrass
 Elderberry
 Horsetail Reed
 Lizard-tail
 Hanging Bulrush

TOLERATING/NEEDING IRRIGATION

Alkali Sacaton
 Broomsedge Bluestem
 Bushy Bluestem
 Longspike Silver Bluestem
 Splitbeard Bluestem
 Eastern Gamagrass
 Leavenworth Caric Sedge
 Cherokee Caric Sedge
 Crow-foot Caric Sedge
 Either Canada Wildrye
 Gulf Muhly
 Knotroot Bristlegrass
 Lindheimer Muhly
 Seep Muhly
 Indiangrass
 Inland Seoats
 Longspike Tridens
 Sand Lovegrass
 Silver Plumegrass
 Southwestern Bristlegrass
 Blue Fescues
 Virginia Wildrye
 All Miscanthus (Japanese Silver Grass, Maidengrass) species
 Hanging Bulrush
 All Pennisetum (Fountaingrass) species
 All Pennisetum (Fountaingrass) species
 Weeping Lovegrass
 Elderberry
 Giant Coneflower
 Horsetail Reed
 Spring Obedient Plant