



Ornamental Grasses of the Botanic Gardens

	Genus, Species	Common Name	Origin & Information
1	<i>Zea mays japonica</i>	Japanese Striped Maize	Japan - Ornamental corn from Japan grown for its unique foliage that is striped with green, white, yellow and pink. Tassels are dark purple and the ear kernal are burgundy. A wonderful plant for borders, sure to attract lots of attention all summer long.
2	<i>Pennisetum X hybrida 'Purple Majesty'</i>	Purple Majesty Fountain Grass	Asia - Annual purple-leaved warm season grass, 3-5'H with 8-12" flower spikes. Immature spikes used in floral arrangements, mature seedheads will attract birds. 2003 All-American-Selection (AAS) Gold Medal Flower Award Winner.
3	<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	Blue Oat Grass	Western Mediterranean - Perennial grass with bright blue-gray, narrow leaves. Forms a fountain-like clump 2-3'H X 2-3'W, full sun, average water and rich, well-drained soil. Semievergreen.
4	<i>Festuca glauca (cinerea)</i>	Blue Fescue	Europe - Perennial grass used as ornamental, 12"H X 10"W, a dense tuft of very fine blue-gray leaves. Many cultivars, used for edging or ground cover. Full sun, moderate water.
5	<i>Buchloe dactyloides 'Legacy'</i>	Legacy Buffalo Grass	Interior Western US below 6500 ft. - Native, sod-forming warm season grass used for a low-maintenance turf. Low growing vegetatively produced female clone developed by the University of Nebraska, uses 20% as much water as other turfgrasses. Spreads rapidly by surface runners (stolons), gray green during the growing season, straw colored when dormant. Full sun, maximum height of 4" makes mowing unnecessary.
6	<i>Andropogon gerardii 'Pawnee'</i>	Big Bluestem	US midwest - Perennial prairie grass forms a clump 3-5'H X 3'W, thin blades are blue-green in summer turning bronzy red or coppery in fall. Full sun, moderate water, good screen or accent plant.
7	<i>Panicum virgatum 'Prairie Sky'</i>	Switch Grass	Eastern US - Upright native grass 3-5'H, blue-green foliage, very hardy. Full sun or light shade, moderate water, foliage turns beige in winter and persists.

8	<i>Miscanthus 'Giganteus' (floridulus)</i>	Giant Silver Grass	Asia - Perennial upright grass 8-10'H X 4'W, arching 3' leaves are dark green with a white midrib, flowers in fall so tends not to bloom in Cheyenne. Full sun or partial shade, regular water, provides a tropical look.
9	<i>Calamagrostis X acutiflora 'Karl Foerster'</i>	Karl Foerster Feather Reed Grass	Eurasia - Sturdy, erect, clumping grass with narrow, bright green leaves 2-3'H. Feathery flower plumes in early summer, persist into winter. Full sun or partial shade, regular water.
10	<i>Molinia caerulea arundinacea 'Skyracer'</i>	Skyracer Moor Grass	Eurasia - Long lived but slow growing perennial grass with erect 3'H leaves that are broad and gray-green, forms a clump 2-3'W. 7-8' yellow flower stems in the fall, in winter foliage and flowers detach at the base.
11	<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Northern Sea Oats	Eastern US - Perennial woodland grass with broad bamboolike leaves, arching flower stems with attractive seed heads. Partial shade, regular water, tends to sprawl.
12	<i>Carex flacca (glauca)</i>	Blue Sedge	Europe - Grasslike clumping plant with blue-green evergreen foliage, 12"H X 18"W. Partial shade, moderate water, can be clipped and tolerates light foot traffic.
13	<i>Luzula nivea 'Snowbird'</i>	Snowy Wood Rush	Europe - Slow-spreading, tufted, 1'H with hairy-edged leaves; dense clusters of cottony white flowers in early summer turning tan. Partial shade, rich moist soils.
14	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius bulbosum 'Variegatum'</i>	Variegated Bulbous Oat Grass	Europe - Attractive perennial grass with narrow leaves edged and striped in white. 1'H X 1'W, cool season grass. Full sun or partial sun, regular water, divide periodically.
15	<i>Carex muskingumensis</i>	Palm Sedge	North America - Clumping grasslike perennial with long evergreen leaves that carry weeping leaf blades up to the tip resembling a small palm branch, 2-3'H. Sun to partial shade, ample water, rich organic soils.
16	<i>Carex morrowii expallida 'Goldband'</i>	Variegated Japanese Sedge	Japan - Grasslike clumping plant 1'H X 1-2'W with drooping yellow-striped leaves. Regular water, partial shade.
17	<i>Carex plantaginea</i>	Plaintain Sedge	North America - Evergreen clump-forming sedge with broad hosta-like soft green foliage with handsome veining. A lovely groundcover, easy and dependable even in dry shade, 8-12"H.

18	<i>Calamagrostis X acutiflora</i> 'Avalanche'	Avalanche Grass	Eurasia - Sturdy, erect, clumping grass with narrow white variegated leaves. 2-3'H. Sun or part sun, regular water.
19	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> 'Rubrum'	Red Fountain Grass	Tropical Africa. southwestern Asia - Perennial grass grown as annual, graceful fountainlike mounds with long plumes of purplish flowers and reddish brown foliage.