



## Flame Grass (*Miscanthus Purpurascens*)

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Flame grass is part of a group of 17-20 perennial grasses from Africa to East Asia. Its green leaf blades turn reddish as summer progresses. As fall approaches, flame grass becomes the star for its showy red-orange colored foliage. Flowers form arching plumes that turn creamy white for winter interest. Narrow leaves begin in a clump, spread out and arch like a fountain. This variety grows in cold climates and seeds usually are not fertile, so it is non-invasive. Use it to add height to a perennial garden or for screening. Makes a good, long-lasting cut or dried flower.

Type	Perennial grass
Hardiness Zone	4 - 9
Sun	Full sun or partial shade
Bloom Time	Mid to late fall
Height	4 - 5' tall (5 - 6' with flower)
Spread	2.5 - 3'
Tolerance	Drought tolerant
Attracts	Birds
Additional Features	Winter interest, erosion control, deer resistant, screening

### Soil and Site Recommendations

- Drainage: well-drained, moist soil
- Soil pH: acidic to alkaline, 6.5 - 7.5
- Type: sand, loam, clay
- Planting Considerations: water garden, pond, border or as a privacy screen

### Planting Recommendations

- Type: ornamental grass
- When to plant: fall or spring
- Depth of planting: plant roots at same depth as in container
- Mulching: can help maintain moisture
- Spacing: plant 20" apart
- Spread: 2 - 4'
- Division/transplant tips: spring or fall



## Maintenance

- Watering: Moderate, prefers moist soil
- Fertilization: compost or all-purpose plant food
- Pinching/deadheading: none
- Annual maintenance: cut to 4 - 6" above the ground in late winter before new foliage emerges

## Common Problems

Disease: none serious

Insects: none serious

## Resources

<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/miscanthus-purpurascens/>

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=292001&isprofile=0&>

Questions or problems: Ornamental Grass Collection at the MN Landscape Arboretum

<https://www.arboretum.umn.edu/ornamentalgrasscollection.aspx>

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