

Guide to Selecting Native Grasses and Sedges

Common Name (<i>Botanical Name</i>)	Bloom Time ^y	Plant Size	Light Level ^x			Moisture Preference				Uses					
	Sp,Su,F		○	◉	●	Well-Drained	Dry	Moist	Wet	Woodlands	Meadows	Wildlife Habitats	Erosion Control	Moist/Wet Sites	Landscape
Warm-season Grasses															
Upland Bentgrass (<i>Agrostis perennans</i>)	F	1-3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x			x	x			
Big Bluestem (<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>)	Su,F	4-8 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x
Bushy Bluestem (<i>Andropogon glomeratus</i>)	F	3-4 ft.	x					x	x			x	x	x	
Elliot's Bluestem (<i>Andropogon gyrans</i>)	F	2-3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			
Splitbeard Bluestem (<i>Angropogon ternarius</i>)	F	4 ft.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x		
Broomsedge (<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>)	F	3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x			x	x	x		
Arrowfeather Threeawn (<i>Aristida purpurascens</i>)	Su,F	1-3 ft.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			
Southern Wiregrass (<i>Aristida stricta</i> var. <i>beyrichiana</i>)	Su	3 ft.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			x
Side Oats Grama (<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>)	Su	3 ft.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x	x		x
Sweet Wood Reed (<i>Cinna arundinacea</i>)	Su	3-5 ft.		x				x				x	x	x	
Bigtop Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis hirsuta</i>)	F	3 ft.	x			x	x				x				
Purple Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>)	Su,F	2 ft.	x	x		x	x	x			x				x
Pink Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia capillaris</i>)	F	3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x			x		x		x
Purple Muhly Grass (<i>Muhlenbergia sericea</i>)	F	4 ft.	x			x	x	x			x			x	x
Nimblewill (<i>Muhlenbergia schreberi</i>)	F	8 in.	x	x				x		x			x	x	
Beaked Panic Grass (<i>Panicum anceps</i>)	Su,F	4 ft.	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Redtop Panic Grass (<i>Panicum rigidulum</i>)	Su,F	2-4 ft.	x					x	x		x			x	
Switchgrass (<i>Panicum virgatum</i>)	Su,F	3-6 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
Silver Plumegrass (<i>Saccharum alopecuroides</i>)	F	3-9 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			x
Giant Plumegrass (<i>Saccharum giganteum</i>)	F	6-12 ft.	x	x		x		x	x	x	x	x		x	

^y Bloom Time: Sp=Spring, Su=Summer, F=Fall

^x Light Level: ○=full sun, ◉=partial shade, ●=shade

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Warm-season Grasses (continued)															
Little Bluestem (<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>)	F	1½-2 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x		x
Knotroot Bristlegrass (<i>Setaria parviflora</i>)	Su	1-3 ft.	x	x				x		x	x	x		x	
Slender Indian Grass (<i>Sorghastrum elliottii</i>)	F	2-6 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			x
Yellow Indian Grass (<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>)	Su,F	3-5 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Lopsided Indian Grass (<i>Sorghastrum secundum</i>)	F	1½-3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x	x			x
Rough Dropseed (<i>Sporobolus clandestinus</i>)	F	30 in.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			
Prairie Dropseed (<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>)	Su,F	1½-2 ft.	x	x		x	x			x	x	x			x
Pineywoods Dropseed (<i>Sporobolus junceus</i>)	F	2-3 ft.	x	x		x		x		x	x	x		x	x
Purpletop (<i>Tridens flavus</i>)	Su	3-6 ft.	x			x	x	x			x	x			
Eastern Gamagrass (<i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i>)	Sp,Su,F	4-8 ft.	x			x		x	x		x	x		x	x
Cool-season Grasses															
Ticklegrass (<i>Agrostis hyemalis</i>)	Sp,Su	1-3 ft.	x	x		x	x	x		x	x		x	x	
Giant Cane (<i>Arundinaria gigantea</i>)	Sp	5-12 ft.	x	x				x				x	x	x	
Hairy Woodland Brome (<i>Bromus pubescens</i>)	Sp,Su	1-3 ft.		x	x			x		x		x		x	
River Oats (<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>)	Su	2-4 ft.		x	x			x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Longleaf Woodoats (<i>Chasmanthium sessiliflorum</i>)	Su	3 ft.		x	x			x		x		x		x	x
Silky Oatgrass (<i>Danthonia sericea</i>)	Sp,Su	8-20 in.	x	x			x			x	x		x		x
Poverty Oatgrass (<i>Danthonia spicata</i>)	Sp	1 ft.	x	x			x	x		x	x		x		x
Wavy Hairgrass (<i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i>)	Sp	12-18 in.		x		x		x		x	x	x			x
Deer-tongue Grass (<i>Dichanthelium clandestinum</i>)	Sp,Su	3-4 ft.		x		x		x				x	x	x	

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Cool-season Grasses (continued)															
Openflower Rosettegrass (<i>Dichanthelium laxiflorum</i>)	Sp,Su,F	6 in.	x	x				x		x	x			x	x
Velvet Panicum (<i>Dichanthelium scoparium</i>)	Sp,Su	4-5 ft.		x				x	x	x		x		x	
Eastern Bottlebrush Grass (<i>Elymus hystrix</i>)	Sp,Su	4-5 ft.		x	x	x		x	x	x	x			x	x
Virginia Wildrye (<i>Elymus virginicus</i>)	Su	4-5 ft.	x	x		x		x		x	x		x	x	
Fowl Managrass (<i>Glyceria striata</i>)	Sp	2-3½ ft.	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x		x	
Little Barley (<i>Hordeum pussillum</i>)	Sp	½-1½ ft.	x			x	x				x	x			
Twoflower Melicgrass (<i>Melica mutica</i>)	Sp	1½ ft.		x	x	x		x		x				x	x
Blackseed Speargrass (<i>Piptochaetium avenaceum</i>)	Sp	3 ft.		x	x			x		x	x				
Early Bluegrass (<i>Poa cuspidata</i>)	Sp	½-2ft.		x				x		x		x		x	
Sedges															
Yellowfruit Sedge (<i>Carex annectens</i>)	Su	1-3 ft.	x	x				x	x					x	
Cherokee Sedge (<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>)	Sp,Su	½-1½ ft.	x	x	x			x		x				x	x
Frank's Sedge (<i>Carex frankii</i>)	Sp,Su	2½ ft.	x	x				x	x		x	x		x	
Southern Waxy Sedge (<i>Carex glaucescens</i>)	Sp	2-4 ft.	x	x			x	x	x		x			x	
Limestone Meadow Sedge (<i>Carex granularis</i>)	Sp	6 in.		x	x	x		x					x	x	x
Shallow Sedge (<i>Carex lurida</i>)	Sp	1-3 ft.	x	x				x	x				x	x	x
Pennsylvania Sedge (<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>)	Sp	6 in.		x	x	x	x			x		x	x		x
Seersucker Sedge (<i>Carex plantaginea</i>)	Sp	1-2 ft.		x	x			x		x				x	x
Tussock Sedge (<i>Carex stricta</i>)	Sp,Su	1-3 ft.	x	x				x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Wool Grass (<i>Scirpus cyperinus</i>)	Su	3-6 ft.	x	x				x	x		x	x		x	

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