

Plant Name: Festuca glauca blue fescue grass
Common Name: Festuca glauca Blue Fescue Gra

Plant Type: Grass

Height: 15cm
Spread: 15-22cm

Cutflower: Yes



Species Data (applies to all plants in this Plant Species)

Dainty diminutive *Festuca glauca* makes a tight mound of steely blue, needle-like blades and is one of the most tactile of the evergreen grasses. A new flush of blue-grey leaves appears by early spring and makes a fine foil for bright, low-growing bulbs. Planted as a specimen or in swathes across a high-summer garden, the colour is so unexpected it can't help but catch the eye. *Festuca glauca* is not a showy specimen plant but in a minimalist scheme, against a backing of slate and red chippings, it adds texture, colour and interest. These fescues look terrific planted in a silver-blue swathe among taller grasses: weave them through dark carexes or plant them around the base of *deschampsias*, *molinias* or *miscanthus*.

Good companions

Small, sun-loving plants such as rock roses, thymes, smaller *erodiums* and single, low-growing pinks, mingle well with this grass on a scree or slope. Alternatively, dark-leaved sedums and the strappy-leaved black *Ophiopogon planiscapus* 'Nigrescens' provide a strong contrast to the clumps.

Dark-purple lavenders of every type, the large-leaved sage (*Salvia officinalis*), lamb's ears (*Stachys byzantina*) and the ponytail grass (*Stipa tenuissima*) make good companions in a sunny border of silvers.

For a striking spring partnership, team blue fescue with *Crocus chrysantha* 'Blue Pearl' and 'Ladykiller', pink and red species tulips or deep-blue scillas.

Plant Data (applies to THIS plant only)

Hardy Perennial

Foliage: Blue-green leaves.
Height: 15cm (6")
Spread: 15-22cm (6-9")
Position: Full Sun to partial shade
Aspect: All aspects. Exposed or Sheltered
Soil: Needs sharp drained soil

Aftercare:

Feed in spring like ordinary perennials, with a single dressing of a general fertiliser. Even without an annual feed, most grasses will put on a first-rate show. The more nitrogen grasses receive the greener and further they'll grow. This spreading habit is fine in a field, but in a garden they may become too lush and the flower quality may suffer.

Division:

Once the plant is established, divide in March to April. It is relatively easy to propagate by division. Do this in spring, not autumn, as some newly divided plants may rot before they've developed a good root system.

Plant Uses:

Architectural, Cottage/Informal Garden, Drought Resistant, Flower Arranging, Flowers Borders and Beds, Low Maintenance or Mediterranean.