

Purple Fountain Grass *Pennisetum setaceum* 'Rubrum'

Other Common Names: Purple Fountain Grass



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PURPLE FOUNTAIN GRASS

Pennisetum setaceum 'Rubrum'

Frost Tender Perennial Ornamental Grass



Full Sun/Part Shade

Water: Medium

3-4'Tall x 2-3'Wide **Color:** Burgundy-red Flower Plumes

Blooms: Summer to fall Fountain shape

Grown by a Denton County Master Gardener

General Information

Popular ornamental grass with dark purple or burgundy-colored arching foliage. Grows well, even in poor soil. Its striking foliage and foxtail plumes show up well when surrounded by contrasting plants. Purple fountain grass is heat tolerant and may be grown as a hedge, specimen, or back of border plant.

Characteristics

Hardiness Zones: 9-10

Heat Tolerance: Medium

Size: 3-4 feet tall by 2-3 feet wide

Flowers: Tall upright purple spikes

Bloom time: July through October

Leaves: Long, grass like leaves

Pests and Disease Problems

N/A

Plant Care

Easy to grow in most any soil in sun to light shade. The plant requires some supplemental water during dry spells and a light dose of balanced fertilizer. Plant anytime from containers. Cut back dead foliage to the ground in fall or spring. The plant is hardy to 20 degrees, so it may not survive very cold winters in North Texas and should be considered as an annual grass.

Warning

Does not survive winter temps below 20 degrees

Sources for Additional Information

Missouri Botanical Garden. [Pennisetum setaceum 'Rubrum'](#)

North Carolina Extension Gardener. [Cenchrus-setaceus](#)