



ORNAMENTAL GRASS EVALUATIONS

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Summary

An ornamental grass demonstration garden was installed at the Ohio State University Extension, Agricultural Business Enhancement (ABE) Center in the fall of 1996. The purpose of the garden is to provide information to our clientele regarding ornamental grasses. The plants in the garden are labeled with the scientific and common names for observation. Five Master Gardener volunteers evaluated the gardens in 1999. The demonstration garden is an ongoing research project of Northwest Ohio Master Gardeners.

Center planted and evaluated an ornamental grass demonstration garden. The garden is located outside the ABE Center office in Bowling Green. The bed is on the east side of a two-story brick building. The soil conditions vary greatly from clay (native soil type) to sand (used as a backfill when the building was built). A two inch layer of mulch was applied during the initial planting stage, and Master Gardeners weeded the area when necessary. An application of fertilizer was applied in April 1999.

Introduction

In recent years, the popularity of ornamental grasses has been on the rise. This is evident with the increase of plantings in public gardens and home landscapes, as well as the availability of additional plants at garden centers and nurseries. There has also been an increase in consumer calls to Extension offices requesting information on certain characteristics of ornamental grass varieties, the care and maintenance of these plants, and plant hardiness.

In an attempt to meet the needs of clientele in Northwest Ohio, Master Gardeners at the ABE

Discussion

Forty-five ornamental grass plants are in the demonstration garden. The garden was planted in the fall of 1996. In 1999, volunteers evaluated the grasses every two weeks during the months of May through September and once a month the remainder of the year.

Each evaluator ranked the foliage, inflorescence (INFLOR.), damage from insect, damage from disease, and added additional noteworthy comments. Each total was obtained by averaging the data collected. A rating scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest, was used. Following is the summary of the evaluations of this project.

Andropogon gerardii - Big Bluestem

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	3.5	2.3	2.8	2.6	3	3	2.5	1.5
FOLIAGE - overall	3.5	2.3	2.6	2	3.3	2.5	2.3	1.5
INFLOR. - color		3.5	2.5	3	4			
INFLOR. - texture		3.5	2.7	3	4			
INFLOR. - overall		3.5	2.5	2.5	4			
FOLIAGE Height	28"	28"	28"	28"	28"	22"	22"	22"
TOTAL Height		48"	63"	70"	65"			
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> center died out some brown tips kind of ratty & ill-mannered still has good color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> early growth died new growth looks good would look better if dead foliage removed just starting to bloom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> needs more sun a lot of brown stems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thick clump with half brown too crowded 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> floppy & ratty looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> crowded by Giant Reed tangled clump inflorescence very attractive mostly brown & floppy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> green & brown, great fall color untidy clump burn it

Arundo donax - Giant Reed

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.7	5	5	4.6	4.5	5	4.7	4.5
FOLIAGE - overall	4.7	5	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.5
INFLOR. - color							5	5
INFLOR. - texture							5	5
INFLOR. - overall							5	5
FOLIAGE Height	7'	9'	10'	13'	15'	15'	16'	16'
TOTAL Height							16'	17'
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> giant looks like blue corn stalks looks invasive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> must be divided next year, it's taking over the entire end of the bed wow, still blue-green and standing tall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> upright, sturdy, forceful looking monster plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack's Beanstalk giant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> definitely impressive for the right spot great blue tinge to foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a giant still blue green still HUGE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> it blooms giant!! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> foliage looking ragged inflorescence looks like a feather duster lower portion browning very impressive in right location

Briza media - Quaking Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99	
FOLIAGE - color	3.5	1.7	1.4						
FOLIAGE - overall	2.7	1.5	1.4						
INFLOR. - color									
INFLOR. - texture									
INFLOR. - overall									
FOLIAGE Height	9"	9"	5"						
TOTAL Height									
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> spreading, low lying, limp looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> looks dead, brown to ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dead 					

Calamagrostis arun. 'Karl Foerster'-Foerster's Feather R. Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.5	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.5	4	3.6
FOLIAGE - overall	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.3	3	4	3.6
INFLOR. - color	5	4.7	3.4	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.3	4
INFLOR. - texture	5	4.7	3.6	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.3	4
INFLOR. - overall	5	4.7	3.4	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.3	4
FOLIAGE Height	30"	32"	32"	32"	32"	32"	32"	32"
TOTAL Height	46"	46"	48"	48"	48"	48"	45"	45"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> outstanding brown tips on bottom foliage-the rest looks great starting to be crowded by other plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> upright inflorescence with slight arching it is being crowded by other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> great needs more room to enjoy its beauty 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vertical inflorescence with arching foliage lovely although crowded excellent inflorescence, soft arching foliage great grass, but cramped in this location shaded by other grasses 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> beautiful fall accent remains upright and harvest looking inflorescence looking frazzled but blades green 	

Calamagrostis arundinacea var. brachytricha - Korean R. Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.3	3.3	3.6	3.3	3	3	3.3	3.5
FOLIAGE - overall	2.7	3	3.4	3.3	2.7	3	3.3	3.3
INFLOR. - color	4.5	3.5	4	3.3	3.5	3	3.3	3.3
INFLOR. - texture	4.5	3.5	4.2	3.3	3.3	3	3.3	3.3
INFLOR. - overall	4.5	3	3.8	3.3	3	3	3	3.3
FOLIAGE Height	19"	20"	21"	21"	21"	21"	21"	21"
TOTAL Height	30"	32"	33"	33"	33"	33"	33"	33"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> crowded by other plants foliage not holding up well upright inflorescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thin growth needs more room kind of ratty looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> too crowded, could look better if given the room shaded by other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> too shaded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> upright too shaded by other plants 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> crowded & shaded by other grasses delicate inflorescence, upright habit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> upright inflorescence, foliage still green

Carex glauca - Blue Sedge

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.3	3.5	3.4	2	2	2.5	2.7	2.7
FOLIAGE - overall	4.3	3.5	3.6	2	1.7	2.5	2.5	2.7
INFLOR. - color	4.3	3						
INFLOR. - texture	4.3	3						
INFLOR. - overall	4.3	2.7						
FOLIAGE Height	10"	10"	8"	8"	8"	8"	8"	8"
TOTAL Height	18"	18"						
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> full healthy growth nice edging plant soft arching soft browning inflorescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thick, full, looks tangled losing blue color, slight yellow to light green some browning inflorescence has laid down with foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foliage limp Thick mat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> unkept looking brown & green mat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> browning, drooping, appears matted down appears drought has caused some dieback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> strange rose-looking inflorescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> green-gray mat lots of brown blades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brown mat with a little green

Carex x 'The Beatles' - The Beatles Sedge

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	3.3	3.5	2.4	2.3	3.5	3	2.7	3
FOLIAGE - overall	3.3	3.4	2.2	2.3	3.3	2.5	2.7	3
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soft arching habit • some yellowing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • limp, softly arching • some browning • shaded by other grass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shaded by other plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unruly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • softly draping arches • shaded by other plants 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interspersed with brown blades as about half the plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still a bright green foliage • arching

Chasmanthium latifolium - Northern Sea Oats

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.3	4.7	4	4.2	4	4	3.7	3
FOLIAGE - overall	4	4.7	3.6	4.6	4	4.5	3.7	3
INFLOR. - color	3.7	4.5	4.7	5	4.2	5	4.5	4.3
INFLOR. - texture	3.7	4.5	4.7	5	4.2	5	4.5	4.3
INFLOR. - overall	3.7	4.5	4.7	5	4.2	5	4.5	4.3
FOLIAGE Height	27"	27"	30"	30"	30"	30"	30"	30"
TOTAL Height	34"	34"	36"	36"	36"	38"	38"	36"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all three look healthy • nice shape • bright green color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright, interesting character 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does much better in full sun • great lime color • seed head just turning strawberry color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nice color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright stems starting to lean • evidence of new growth • withstanding heat & drought well 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still attractive with fall colors • foliage & inflorescence have great contrast • tips of blades brown • nice upright habit with slight arching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still upright • inflorescence will be good winter interest • great fall color

Festuca cinerea - Blue Fescue

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	1.5	1.5	2.2	2	1.7	3	1.7	2.3
FOLIAGE - overall	1.5	1	2	1.2	1.5	3	1.7	2.3
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	4"	4"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • struggling • slow to get going, only partial green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse, weak plants • brown with a little green • upright with slight arching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sad, sickly looking, small, slight green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yuck! • sparse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse green, fine blades • thin, looks bad • the small amount of regrowth has great evergreen color 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse • mostly dead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one plant still green • this must be it's month to shine

Festuca cinerea 'Elijah Blue' - Elijah Blue Fescue

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.7	4
FOLIAGE - overall	3.3	3.6	2.6	3	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.7
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	11"	11"	11"	11"	11"	9"	10"	10"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sparse growth good frosty blue color arching course texture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thin but good blue color upright with slightly arching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding color well Pretty blue Looks better in large clumps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dusty steel blue color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pretty blue mixed with brown blades fairly good color 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> great looking, ice blue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attractive, frosted blue clump still softly upright 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> still upright and blue

Helictotrichon sempervirens - Blue Oat Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4	3.7	2.6	2.6	3.7	2	2	2.6
FOLIAGE - overall	4.5	3.7	2.4	2.4	3.5	2	2	2.3
INFLOR. - color			3					
INFLOR. - texture			3					
INFLOR. - overall			2					
FOLIAGE Height	17"	17"	15"	16"	16"	16"	13"	13"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> love the silver blue color some shading by other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> small tidy plant sparse clump pretty blue, but has some brown foliage throughout the plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pretty blue color, but a lot of brown foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lots of dieback but good color otherwise few live blades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a few blades of beautiful blue with more brown blades upright with soft arching very thin, mostly brown lots of dieback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> nice gray-blue on what is still alive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mostly brown with a few blue blades new growth has great color remains upright with soft arch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> very little still blue

Imperata cylindrica 'Red Baron' - Japanese Blood Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4	2.6	2.4	3	2	1.5	1.5	1.6
FOLIAGE - overall	3.5	2	2	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.3
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	12"	12"	13"	13"	12"	10"	10"	10"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sparse, small plant great red foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thin, only about 12 blades some red 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sparse, some red on foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> few blades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one plant is dead, the other is not impressive little spreading, and very thin good red with little green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lack of water? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mostly brown with a few red blades very thin since spring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not perform as expected looked the same since spring

Luzula sylvatica - Greater Woodrush

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	2.7	1.3	1	1	1	1	1.3	1.7
FOLIAGE - overall	2.7	1	1	1	1	1	1.3	1.7
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	8"	8"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brown in middle of clump • one plant dead • looks kind of bleached out with brown tips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dead in center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dry in center • 3rd plant dead • looks poorly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a few good blades on outer edge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • almost totally browned out, sparse, upright green blades • great amount of dead • lack of moisture?, too much sun? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • closer to death each day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mostly dead from center out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mostly dead with a few green blades - not impressive

Miscanthus giganteus - Giant Chinese Silver Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.7	4.7	3.8	4.3	3.7	4.5	4	4.5
FOLIAGE - overall	4.7	4.5	3.8	4	3.5	3	3.5	4.5
INFLOR. - color								4.6
INFLOR. - texture								4.6
INFLOR. - overall								4.3
FOLIAGE Height	6'	7'	8'	8'	8'	8'	8'	8'
TOTAL Height								9'
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great pink colored stripes • upright, full stable stems • big 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very upright • brown on lower part of stalks with green on top 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright arching foliage, lush green on top, lower half brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dried at bottom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vertical with soft arches • lots of browning on lower half of foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lower half of stems brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • green tops with tan bottom • upright and contained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good fall color • great upright, brown fall plant

Miscanthus sinensis 'Morning Light' - 'Morning Light' Jap. Silver Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	5	5	4.6	5	4.7	4.5	4.5	5
FOLIAGE - overall	5	5	4.4	5	4.5	4.5	4.5	5
INFLOR. - color							4.5	5
INFLOR. - texture							4.5	5
INFLOR. - overall							4.5	5
FOLIAGE Height	4'	5'	5'	5'	5'	5'	5'	5'
TOTAL Height							5'	5'
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soft arching • good form • fine foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good looking plant • nice, well mannered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soft, arching, full foliage • another keeper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good looking plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arching softly • attractive plant • just plain great 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • softly arching • full attractive plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • graceful, beautiful fall plant • very attractive plant

Miscanthus sinensis 'Purpurascens' - Flame Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.6	4.7	4	4.5	4.5
FOLIAGE - overall	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.6	4.7	3.5	4.5	4.5
INFLOR. - color					5	5	5	4
INFLOR. - texture					5	5	5	4
INFLOR. - overall					5	5	5	3.7
FOLIAGE Height	4'	5"	5'	5'	5'	4'	4'	4'
TOTAL Height					63"	60"	60"	60"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nice white stripe down center of each blade • upright, soft • tall flowing green form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yellowing • arching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foliage softly arched to almost touch the ground • full graceful appearance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arching, full habit • just starting to bloom • looking good 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inflorescence looks a lot like sparklers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arching habit • great inflorescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arching, buff color

Miscanthus sinensis 'Variegatus' - Variegated Japanese Silver Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	3.7	2.3	2.4	2.6	2	2	3	2.3
FOLIAGE - overall	3.3	2	2	2.3	1.7	2	3	2
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	21"	22"	24"	24"	24"	18"	18"	18"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thin foliage • dainty, upright, slow to get growing • has good variegation • dwarfed by other grasses • shaded by other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some dieback • sparse decorative foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regrowth shows promise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse • vertical habit • shaded by Giant Reed • new growth at base looks great 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crowded out by neighboring plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very thin clump • new growth is great • shaded y other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not impressive

Miscanthus sinensis variegatus strictus - Porcupine Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3	4	3.7	4.3
FOLIAGE - overall	4.5	4.7	4.4	4	4	3.5	3.5	4.3
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	44"	48"	52"	52"	52"	50"	48"	48"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good stripes • upright, arching • good looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright with graceful arch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright, soft arching foliage • nice variegation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vertical, softly arching • has bluish cast to the upper stem 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright blades with variegation • starting to brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still looks good, but has brown tips

Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus' - Zebra Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	5	4.5	3.8	4	3.5	3	3.7	3
FOLIAGE - overall	5	4.3	3.6	4	3.3	3	3.5	3
INFLOR. - color								
INFLOR. - texture								
INFLOR. - overall								
FOLIAGE Height	46"	46"	48"	48"	46"	46"	46"	46"
TOTAL Height								
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • well defined stripes • upright, stately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great • upright, soft arch • crowded by other grasses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • needs more room & sun • nice variegation 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • browning at tips 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stripes are very noticeable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turning brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not a pretty fall interest • attractive fall plant

Panicum virgatum 'Haense Herms' - Red Switch Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.3	4	4.5	3.7
FOLIAGE - overall	4.7	4.7	4.6	4	4	3.5	4	3.8
INFLOR. - color	4.7	5	4.8	4.3	4.3	5	4.5	3.8
INFLOR. - texture	4.5	5	4.8	4.3	4.3	5	4.5	4.3
INFLOR. - overall	4.3	4.7	4.8	4.3	4.3	5	4.5	4.3
FOLIAGE Height	31"	31"	31"	31"	31"	31"	31"	31"
TOTAL Height	42"	42"	42"	42"	42"	42"	42"	42"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great appearance, swaying • arching • great red stripes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • opening in middle of clump • fine delicate inflorescence • soft arching habit • tends to droop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • floppy • arching foliage • clump overgrown, needs to be divided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clump too thick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arching foliage • floppy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tends to flop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • floppy, not as upright as "Heavy Metal" • ethereal inflorescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still some green, turning yellow • floppy • it dances in the breeze

Panicum virgatum 'Heavy Metal' - 'Heavy Metal' Switch Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.7	4.7	4.7	5	5	5	5	4.7
FOLIAGE - overall	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.6	5	5	5	4.5
INFLOR. - color		4.7	4.7	5	5	5	5	4.5
INFLOR. - texture		4.8	4.7	5	5	5	5	4.7
INFLOR. - overall		4.8	4.7	5	5	5	5	4.7
FOLIAGE Height	33"	38"	41"	41"	39"	39"	39"	39"
TOTAL Height		50"	52"	52"	48"	48"	48"	48"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright, stiff form • good blue tinge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attractive • upright, tall • excellent plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sturdy, upright inflorescence • A+ this is a keeper • very impressive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • excellent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great color, great inflorescence • ethereal inflorescence, upright foliage, lovely autumn look 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outstanding • good color, good looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great • ethereal inflorescence, • overall upright • hint of red • very impressive! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still lovely • almost brown, but has some purple

Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Hameln' - 'Hameln' Fountain Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99	
FOLIAGE - color	4.5	4	4.2	4	3.2	3.5	4	2.7	
FOLIAGE - overall	4.5	4	4	4	2.7	3.5	3.7	2.7	
INFLOR. - color			4.5	5	4.5	5	4	3	
INFLOR. - texture			4.5	5	4.7	5	4	3	
INFLOR. - overall			4.5	5	4.3	5	4	3	
FOLIAGE Height	18"	20"	16"	16"	16"	18"	18"	18"	
TOTAL Height			24"	24"	28"	28"	28"	28"	
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • healthy plant • spreading nicely • good form, soft arching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • crowded by Giant Reed • weathering drought well • soft arching, nice green 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great looking 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • softly arching, beautiful, soft graceful inflorescence • the Giant Reed is overwhelming this plant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inflorescence flows with foliage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • too crowded by Giant Reed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflorescence tattered, looking it's charm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> all dead

Phalaris arundinacea variegatus picta - Ribbon Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99	
FOLIAGE - color	4.3	3.7	3.6	4	4.5	4	3.7	3.7	
FOLIAGE - overall	3.5	3.5	3.2	4	4.5	3	3.3	3.7	
INFLOR. - color									
INFLOR. - texture									
INFLOR. - overall									
FOLIAGE Height	15"	16"	18"	18"	18"	15"	15"	15"	
TOTAL Height									
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thin clumps • wide band on margins • looks good even with foot traffic • larger clump looks the best 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spreading habit • color looks bleached 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nice variegation • a lot of brown at base of stems • end clump filling in well 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • great variegation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good color, spreading habit 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good ground cover • lower blades brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still colorful • good place for trash to collect, low lying foliage 	

Sesleria caerulea - Blue Moor Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99	
FOLIAGE - color	3	1.4	1.4	1	1.2	2	2	2.5	
FOLIAGE - overall	2	1.4	1.4	1	1.2	2	1.5	2	
INFLOR. - color									
INFLOR. - texture									
INFLOR. - overall									
FOLIAGE Height	7"	7"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	6"	
TOTAL Height									
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse, with brown tips • matted old growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dying • does it need fertilizer or is it the heat??? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sparse, with much brown • not much left 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • yuck • looks dead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • few green blades • suspect lack of moisture (it is a "moisture loving" plant) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rough looking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mostly brown, with some new growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • green with blue cast 	

Spartina pectinata 'Variegata' - Variegated Prairie Cord Grass

	6/99	7/99	8/8/99	8/22/99	9/5/99	9/26/99	10/99	11/99
FOLIAGE - color	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.5	4	3
FOLIAGE - overall	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.7	4	4	3
INFLOR. - color	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.7	5	4.4	4
INFLOR. - texture	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.7	5	4.4	4.3
INFLOR. - overall	4.2	4.7	4.8	4.2	4.7	5	4.4	4.3
FOLIAGE Height	45"	50"	52"	55"	55"	51"	51"	51"
TOTAL Height	50"	60"	60"	60"	60"	60"	60"	60"
COMMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright, arching • unusual looking inflorescence when first open 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amazing foliage is sometimes taller than inflorescence • excellent structure and appearance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tops!! • upright, soft arching, deep green • very impressive • neat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tops • great stuff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upright, open, spreading • nice dark green foliage • outstanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amazing! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thin, floppy • beautiful fall color • mostly brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mostly upright • good fall interest • mostly brown • losing it's appeal