



LITTLE BLUESTEM

Schizachyrium scoparium



Upright bluish-green foliage turns to shades of red changing to deep purple in the fall. Shimmering seed heads remain throughout the winter. Adaptable to poor, dry soils.

Zones: 3-8 **H x W:** 24-36" x 15-18"



INDIAN GRASS

Sorghastrum nutans



A tall, upright grass with showy golden bronze heads in the fall that provide seed for songbirds.

Zones: 4-9 **H x W:** 6-8' x 24-36"



ALKALI SACATON

Sporobolus airoides



Airy grass native to salty, rocky, high desert soils. Adaptable to both heavy clay and well-drained sandy soils. Very tough, yet very beautiful.

Zones: 5-8 **H x W:** 24-36" x 24-36"

KEY TO SYMBOLS

-  full sun
-  part shade
-  full shade
-  very little water
-  low water
-  moderate water

Note: water plants regularly after planting until root systems are well-established then reduce watering.

EXTENSION 

UtahStateUniversity

Utah State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



CENTER FOR WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING

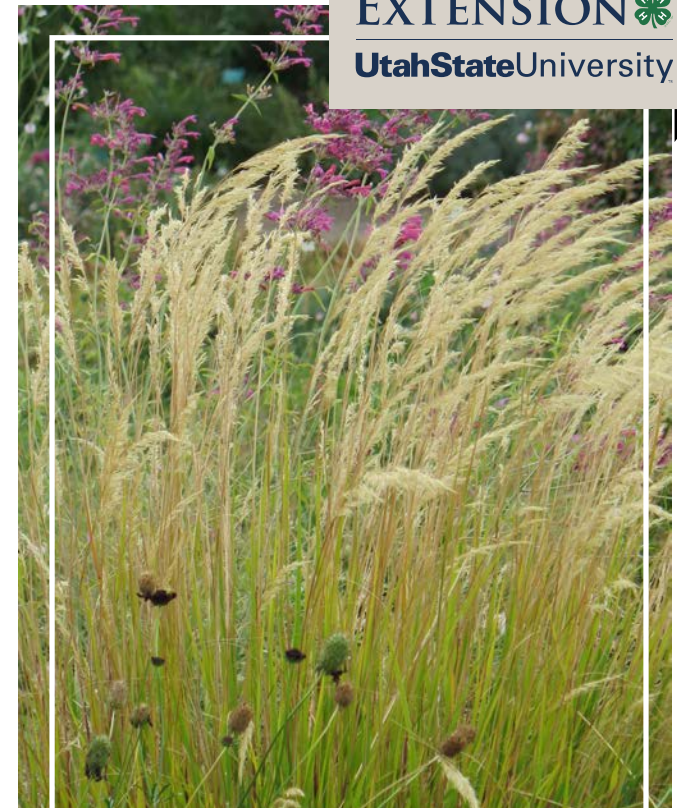
10 Low-Water Ornamental Grasses

Ideal for Water-Efficient Landscapes in Eagle Mountain, Utah

Adrea Wheaton, Larry Rupp & Michael Caron

EXTENSION 

UtahStateUniversity



SILVER SPIKE GRASS (*Achnatherum calamagrostis*)

EXTENSION.USU.EDU



SILVER SPIKE GRASS



Achnatherum calamagrostis

Tall silver plumes emerge from an arching mound of bright green foliage. European native that is well-adapted to drought. Self-seeding.

Zones: 4-9 **H x W:** 24-36" x 24-36"



INDIAN RICE GRASS



Achnatherum hymenoides

One of the most attractive native grasses with an airy texture. Seeds are an important food source for many birds. Fibrous roots are good for erosion control.

Zones: 3-9 **H x W:** 12-24" x 12-24"



BLUE GRAMA



Bouteloua gracilis 'Blonde Ambition'

Distinctive 'eyebrow' seedheads add interest.

Zones: 4-9 **H x W:** 30-36" x 30-36"



BLUE FESCUE



Festuca glauca

A low, mounded grass with fine blue foliage.

Zones: 4-10 **H x W:** variable



ATLAS FESCUE



Festuca mairei

Arching, bright green leaves form an attractive mound.

Zones: 4-8 **H x W:** 24-36" x 24-36"



RUBY MUHLY GRASS



Muhlenbergia reverchonii 'Undaunted'

Showy pink flowering plumes cover this ornamental grass late summer into fall. Tolerant of clay soils. 'Undaunted' is a cold hardy selection of this southeastern native.

Zones: 5-9 **H x W:** 24-36" x 18-34"



SWITCHGRASS



Panicum virgatum

Mid-size grass with panicles of airy purplish flowers late summer. Tips of the blue-green foliage turn red to orange in the fall.

Zones: 4-9 **H x W:** 3-5' x 2'