

They can be more than just plain blades

Grasses can be much more than just another soft pad to stroll on naked feet. The ornamental counterpart of this specie of flora has dug its way into many green hearts by virtue of its undebated beauty. Let's find out how in the following pages.

How are they different from functional grass?

For whosoever wishes for a green display, neatly maintained whenever the front door creaks open, native green grass is the best type available. But the dreamers of a swaying display of colors often stay deprived of the fact that even grass can be a beautiful variety to opt for. The conventional green stretch of mowed carpet is called functional grass. The ornamental one is deliberately allowed to grow to greater height in clusters. They bear subtly colored heads, possess a stronger stalk and occasionally bear flowers. A land with wittfully crafted patches of ornamental grass is a swell sight for eyes. A worth watching view is when the crimson of sun dawn touches the delicate swaying heads of the ornamental farm. Another difference pertains mainly to the purpose that these two classes of grass are supposed to fulfill. While the green variety is supposed to enhance the look of more beautifying elements of the garden, ornamental grasses are the beautifying elements themselves.

Ornamental grass types

Based on height

There are a convenient number of varieties based on height and meant for the kind of garden you wish to raise. There are tall ones like Plume Grass, Maiden Grass and Gracillimus grow to heights which could act as attention grabbers. The slightly more dwarf varieties like Purple Fountain, Blue Oat Grass and Northern Sea Oats have a spiky stature and bear fascinating flowers and berries. The shortest ones like Lilyturf, Blue fescue and Golden Hakone Grass do well at providing for the fenced linings around the entire garden. They give a splendid



Trimmed middle heighted trees and flowering plants look great when they are distributed wisely on a mowed patch of land, but ornamental grasses look inviting without the involvement of any other variety of garden plant and foliage.

show due to their rigid stature and beautiful flowering patterns. All these kinds charm the onlookers with their colors, chamellioning with the different stages of their life cycles.

Based on weather conditions

There are specifications to be considered as far as the period of the year for their growth is considered. Just as we read about the Kharif and Rabi crops that we have all read about in our primary grade classes, these grasses also have particular timings the year round, wherein they need to be seeded to yield the best visual effects when they flower in their fullest grace. There are warm season grasses that flourish during the hot seasons of the year and similarly, there are cool season ones that grow to present wonderful delicacies during the chilly winters. The cool season varieties find comfort in the cool breezy atmosphere that welcomes the spring. The early springs are a wonderful time to transplant and grow these varieties. They usually bear flowers and berries by the early summers and then the growth lathergises down. These varieties make a visually quenching

cocktail with spring bulbs like Scilla and tulips. They are suitable for places that have a short growing seasons. The warm varieties are the successors of their cool season counterparts in the garden. They start blooming late in spring and stay in their best display all throughout the summers, only to show withering effects at the beginning of the frost. For transplantation however, it is a wise decision not to disturb them when the soil is still cold. When the temperature begins to increase, these grasses how the primitive signs of grown and this is exactly the time when they should be scooped up from the ground. Both these subfamilies make each other complete in the fact that the bloom of the later one covers the dead foliage of the earlier one.

Based on type of growth

This classification is based on the growth pattern that the varieties use to propagate themselves. Some of them are runners, representing a network of zigzag entwinements of roots below the soil. These are good when you have a stretch of barren land that you have planned to make a creative use of. The roots have a clutching

It is not just about any variety that you can get growing in about any time of the year. Ornamental grasses are classified based on the criteria of height and the time of the year they can be grown well.

effect on a long stretch of land and bind lumps of soil, one lump adhered to the other by virtue of the running fibers. This implies that these varieties are remedial to slope gardens in heavy rain areas. They prevent further soil erosion hence promising a healthy soil type. The other bunch belongs to the varieties that do not put much effort into spreading their limbs far away from their bodies. They grow in clumps, or more simply put, in isolated bunches. This variety is more of use for boundary plantations. They would grow exactly at the place you want them to grow.

Better than a flowery garden? How!

Colors now are considered to be a regarded therapy technique to soothe the eyes and the souls. How much do we all wish it there could just be a colorful garden somewhere in the vicinity of our living! However, colors are no more related to flowers alone, and grasses are no more the same boring green! Every color, ranging from a scarlet red to a raging blue

can be found amongst the various types of ornamental grasses. Apart from the wide show of colors, they have benefits that would surpass the delicate place that other garden decorations reserve in your heart. The first benefit, and in most cases a heart-warming news – it requires a lot less ton of effort as far as maintenance is the concern. Besides, they are tougher to atmospheric adversities and are resistant to attack by pests. Hence it could be a garden free of the handcuffs of pesticides. No fertilizers, no compost of wriggling worms, no more masks on noses, just a pure swaying bliss! The third reason to be happy would be that grasses grow real fast. You just have to scatter a few seeds across your land or your container and watch them grow to a beautiful blossom. They do everything right from protecting your land, displaying a splendid view, blessing you with a pouch of seeds for future use, to hiding back your dead rotting foliage under their swaying heads.

5 grassy tips

- 1 Grow them as you would make children stand in columns, the littlest to the tallest. It increases visibility and gives the impression of a flight of stairs.
- 2 Use the clump variety to line the peripheries of your space. Most of them are deer repellents.
- 3 Plant them where you find it difficult to carry your water-hose.
- 4 Use small decorative strands of lights to give your garden a twinkling look at the nights. Grass strands are strong and can do a great job in holding the wires in place.
- 5 Bamboo is a family of grasses, so if you are into core grass gardening, do not forget to cultivate a mini-bamboo-fore st on a small patch somewhere at the treading corners of your garden.

Corn is a type of grass and the cobs now come in great color-combos, thanks to science and technology! Use your favorite variety to provide for a healthy display.

