

ANDROPOGON (BIG BLUESTEM)

Location: Zone 4, sun, tolerated dry sites

Shape: Upright clump

Foliage: Silvery blue to purple

Flowers: Late summer into fall

Notes: This tall grass is native to much of the Great Plains and prairie regions. The species is tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions. The stem base turns blue or purple as it matures, giving it its name.

Big Bluestem

Andropogon gerardii

4-6' x 2-3'

Full Sun

Zone 4

Upright clump of silvery blue foliage turns a rich bronze color in fall. Purplish seed heads appear from August to September. Drought tolerant; native.



Blackhawks

Andropogon gerardii 'Blackhawks' PP 27,949

4-5' x 1.5-2'

Full Sun

Zone 4

Upright clump with multi-colored stalks that turn a dark purple mid-summer and are near black by autumn. Topped with small, plume-like seed heads. Drought tolerant.



Red October

Andropogon gerardii 'Red October' PP 26,283

4-6' x 2-3'

Full Sun

Zone 4

Leaves emerge deep green with red tones, remain green in summer, purplish-red by late summer and vivid scarlet red after first fall frost. Burgundy red flowers bloom in August.

