

Plant Name: Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens' AGM
Common Name: Black grass

Plant Type: Grass
Colour: Blue/mauve
Height: 15-45cm

Flowering Time: Flowers from Jul to Sep



Species Data (applies to all plants in this Plant Species)

No Species data defined for this species

Plant Data (applies to THIS plant only)

Evergreen perennial grass, grown for its distinctive grass like, black leaves. Racemes of lilac flowers in summer are followed by black fruits. 9" x 12"

Plant Type: grass/bamboo

Height (cm): 15-45

Flowers in july to sept

Soil Requirements: Well drained

Aspect Requirements: partial shade

Sunlight Requirements: Sun

Colour Group: Blue/mauve

Foliage: spikey

Hardy Perennial

Flowers: Pale purplish white in June to August

Foliage: Evergreen.

Height: 20cm (8")

Spacing: 30cm (10")

Position: Prefers Full Sun but will grow in Partial Shade

Soil type: Well-drained/light, Acidic, Moist

"Black Grass" is a beautiful clump-forming evergreen perennial with grass-like leaves which are dark purple green, almost black. The flowers show up as dainty pearls, iridescent with the faintest blush of pink/violet followed by the black berries in late summer. The plant is in fact a member of the lily family, but is nearly always included in with grasses. It is a slow growing plant but once it is established, it sends out "little babies" on runners. As it is so dwarf, it is easily lost in a border and looks best grown on a rock garden or raised bed. Left undisturbed it slowly forms fair-sized colonies and looks good interplanted with small wandering perennials. It provides a brilliant contrast with most other plants. It has been awarded the prestigious Award of Garden Merit by the RHS

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Aftercare:

Divide in March to May before their new growth period starts.

Healthy plants soon grow into a large clump as new fans of leaves develop around the older ones. These will eventually develop their own roots and can be easily detached from the parent plant. It is possible to cut pieces off a large plant without actually digging it up but it is difficult to do this without losing most of the roots from the cutting. It is probably better to dig up the whole plant then divide it into several pieces using a spade or knife.

Plant Uses:

Edging of Paths, Beds and Borders, Containers, Raised Beds / Alpine and Rock Gardens.

Looks good with:

A great many plants, but especially - Geraniums, Ornamental Thyme. Other Grasses