



Aylett Nurseries
The Complete Garden Centre

Bamboos and Grasses

Information Leaflet No. 5



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BAMBOOS

Bamboos are dramatic plants of tremendous diversity that can transform your garden with their exotic appearance and graceful movement. Vigorous varieties can provide fast growing ground cover or screening, or even form an unusual hedge, other varieties provide foliage interest and will give a strong architectural presence to a border. More compact varieties make excellent and unusual container plants, and of course they are essential plants for Japanese style gardens.

Although quite hardy, bamboos grow best in full sun or part shade in a moist soil. Shelter from cold drying winds is also beneficial.

Bamboo Root Barrier is available in 4m, 5m and 7m rolls. Thick black plastic, ideal for controlling the spread of roots.

Whilst we make every effort to keep this catalogue up to date, the leaflet may vary from the stock we carry from time to time. If you have any questions, or seek a specific variety, please do ask at our Plant Advisory and Information Centre where we are always happy to help.

Varieties available are:

FARGESIA MURIELIAE – Elegantly arching canes with lance shaped leaves. Clump forming bamboo suitable for hedging. Height 3-4m, spread 1-1.5m AGM.

EIJKE – Upright green canes with bright green foliage. Height 3m, spread 1-1.5m.

MUR. JUMBO – Compact variety with narrow cascading foliage. Height 3-4m, spread 1.5m.

MUR. SIMBA – Arching bright green canes with small bright green foliage. Forms elegant clumps. Height 1.5m spread 90cm.

MUR. NEW CENTURY – Yellow canes turn purple with age. Height 3-5m Spread 3m

MUR. VAMPIRE – Green canes turn blush red in the sunlight Height 5m Spread 3m

FARGESIA NITIDA – Slow growing bamboo with purple/green canes, and abundant tapering foliage forming a fountain effect. Height 3-4m, spread 1.5m

FARGESIA RUFA – Red-tinged canes. Height 2-3m, spread 1.5m.

FARGESIA SCABRIDA Asian Wonder Height 3m Spread 2m

PHYLLOSTACHYS

AUREA – ‘Golden Bamboo’. Canes mature from green to yellow. Dense foliage from top to bottom makes this good for screening. Height 6-8m, spread 2m.

AUREOCAULIS – Green stems with yellow furrow between joints. Lance shaped leaves. Height 3-6m, spread indefinite.

A. SPECTABILIS - Canes mature yellow/streaked green. Height 5-8m, spread indefinite.

BISSETTII – Strong growing shiny dark green stems with dense supple foliage. Ideal as a specimen or hedge. Height 6-8m.

NIGRA – ‘Black Bamboo’ canes mature from green to lustrous black. Make impressive clumps. Height 3-5m, spread 2-3m.

PLEIOBLASTUS

SIMONII – Tall olive green canes. Upright habit and long green leaves make it suitable for use as a screen. Height 2.5-5m, spread 1m.

VARIEGATUS- Compact, slow spreading bamboo suitable for containers. Tufted habit with cream striped leaves. Height 80cm, spread 1.2m.

PSEUDOSASA – JAPONICA – Tall olive green canes with long dark green foliage. Forms dense vigorous clumps. Height 3-4.5m, spread indeterminate. Suitable for large gardens.

SASA TSUBOIANA - Low spreading green canes and leaves Height 1.5m Spread 2m

GRASSES

A wide variety gives a range of choice to add interest to your garden. Complementing shrubs and perennials, standing alone or arranged in formal groups grasses give unusual form and colour to any planted area.

(Including grasslike plants i.e. Sedges and Woodrushes)

BRIZA MEDIA – ‘Quaking Grass’ erect stems are topped by heart shaped flower heads, which tremble in the wind. Very popular for dried flower arrangements. Hardy perennial.

CALAMAGROSTIS - Erect stems of feathery brown flowers in summer. Hardy perennials.

ACUTIFLORA KARL FOERSTER - Feathery brown flowers fading to grey in summer. Clump forming. Height 1.2m, spread 60cm.

ACUTIFLORA OVERDAM - Brown flowers mid to late summer fading to grey. Cream edged leaves tinged pink. Height 1.8m, spread 60cm.

CAREX

BUCHANANII- Tall grass with narrow red-brown foliage which curls at the tips. Evergreen hardy perennial. Height 50-75cm, spread 90cm.

COMANS BRONZE FORM – Unusual evergreen tufts of chocolate brown foliage Height 40cm, spread 75 cm.

COMANS FROSTED CURLS - Evergreen silvery-green arching foliage with distinctive curling tips. Height 60cm, spread 45cm.

COMANS MILK CHOCOLATE – Evergreen, bronze foliage, flowers Apr-May. Height 45cm.

ELATA AUREA – Golden sedge. Forms clumps of rich yellow leaves with flower spikes in summer. Ideal for wet area. Height 70cm, spread 45cm. Evergreen.

ICE DANCE – Creamy white edged green leaves, arching and narrow. Flower spikes in summer. Height 30cm, spread 20cm. Evergreen.

OSHIMENSIS 'EVERGOLD' – Evergreen arching blades banded in gold against deep green. Height 30cm, spread 35cm.

OSHIMENSIS 'EVEREST' – Evergreen arching blades banded in white against deep green. Height 30cm, spread 35cm.

OSHIMENSIS 'EVERLIME' – Evergreen arching blades banded in lime against deep green. Height 30cm, spread 35cm.

TESTACEA – Unusual copper-green foliage and brown flower spikes in midsummer. Height 60 - 150cm, spread 45cm. Evergreen.

CORTADERIA – Robust evergreen grasses forming large clumps.

SELLOANA – Slender sharp edged arching leaves with long silvery plumes in autumn. Height 2-2.5m, spread 2m.

SELLOANA PUMILA – Compact habit, sharp edged arching foliage. Silvery plumes in autumn. Good choice as feature plant. Height 1.5m, spread 1m.

SELLOANA ROSEA – 'Pink Pampas' Narrow sharp edged leaves, long pale pink plumes in autumn. Height 2-2.5m.

DESCHAMPSIA – Neat tufted evergreen grasses for sun/partial shade.

BRONZE VEIL – Bright yellow arching foliage with bronze flower heads. Height 50cm. Ideal for rock gardens.

GOLDEN DEW – Bright yellow arching foliage with bronze flower heads. Height 50cm. Ideal for rock gardens.

TATRA GOLD – Bright yellow arching foliage with bronze flower heads. Height 50cm. Ideal for rock gardens.

FESTUCA – Evergreen perennial, good for borders, in sunny well-drained positions.

BLUE FOX – Blue-grey foliage in dense tufts. Purplish flower spikes. Height 25cm.

ELIJAH BLUE – Tufts of blue-grey leaves in hummocks. Height 30cm.

GLAUCA GOLDEN TOUPEE – Striking lime green foliage, yellowing in summer. Height 25cm.

INTENSE BLUE – Intense blue/grey foliage. Height 15cm, spread 20cm.

FICINIA TRUNCATA – Tender, clump forming evergreen perennial

ICE CRYSTAL – Compact sedge with broad evergreen leaves edged with a band of white. Height 20cm

HAKONECHLOA – Hardy deciduous perennial

AUREOLA - Arching bright green/yellow leaves. Height 30cm, spread 50cm.

MACRA - Arching pale green leaves. Height 30cm, spread 50cm.

HELICTOTRICHON SEMPERVIRENS – (Blue oat grass) Slender blue grey tufts carry upright spikes of silvery green flowers on evergreen perennial grass. Best in average well drained soil. Height 60cm.

IMPERATA CYLINDRICA RUBRA (Japanese Blood Grass) – Showy foliage turns from green to bright red. Forms dense spreading clumps. Suitable for sun or part shade in well-drained soil. Height 40cm. Spread 30cm. Deciduous hardy perennial.

KOELERIA GLAUCA – Blue green foliage forms tall spiky clumps. Unusual flower spikes. Sunny position. Poor/average soil. Height 30cm, spread 30cm.

LEYMUS ARENARIUS – Steel blue foliage. Tan flowers in late summer. Height 90cm, spread 90cm.

LUZULA – Shade tolerant evergreen hardy perennial grasses for moist well-drained soil.

NIVEA – Bright green leaves forming loose clumps. Loose clusters of white flowers, dry well. Prefers sunny position. Height 60cm, spread 45cm.

SYLVATICA – Small clusters of dainty brownish flowers in summer on evergreen tussocks of glossy green leaves. Height 30 - 40cm.

MILIUM EFFUSUM AUREUM – Herbaceous grass of tuft forming habit, soft yellow foliage. Good feature plant for semi-shaded site in good soil. Height 60cm.

MISCANTHUS – Moist well drained soil in full sun. Cut back hard in early spring. Good as specimen plants or to add height and movement to mixed borders. Deciduous hardy perennial.

KLEINE. SILBERSPINNE – Bluish green grass with spidery white flowers, tinged red in autumn. Height 1.2m.

SINENSIS FERNER OSTEN – Leaves grey/green with pale silver midrib. Feathery red flower plumes late summer. Height 1.5m, spread 1m.

SINENSIS FLAMINGO – Blue/green arching foliage with silver pink spidery flowers autumn. Height 1.8m, spread 90cm.

SINENSIS GRACILLIMUS – (Maiden grass) Sage green foliage bronzes in autumn. Height 1.3m.

SINENSIS MALEPARTUS – Broad striped foliage and lovely coppery flower plumes. Height 1.8m, spread 1-2m.

SINENSIS MORNING LIGHT – Creamy white margined leaves that stay over winter, with tall panicles of flower in autumn. Height 1.2m, spread 1m.

SINENSIS STRICTUS – Long green leaves with contrasting banding, erect plumes of flower late summer. Height 1.8m.

SINENSIS VARIEGATA – Green leaves edged cream. Beautiful weeping habit. Height 1.8m.

MILIUM – Tufted habit with flowers on tall stems late summer. Prefers acid soil in sun or part shade. Deciduous hardy perennial.

CAERULEA VARIEGATA - Finely striped cream and green leaves. Purplish flower spikes. Neat tufts. Height 60cm.

PANICUM – switch grass, soft clump forming deciduous perennial or annual

HEAVY METAL – deciduous, metallic blue-grey leaves turning yellow in Autumn, hardy height 90cm spread 90cm

SHENANDOAH – deciduous, blue-green leaf, hardy height to 90cm spread 90cm

PENNISETUM – Showy and trouble free grasses for light free draining soil in sun. Cut back old growth in early spring. Not fully hardy.

ALOPECUROIDES – Clump forming evergreen with bottle brush like purplish flower spikes in autumn. Height 60 - 150cm.

HAMELN – Arching leaves and red flower plumes. Height 60cm.

ORIENTALE – Light green foliage and lovely pink-brown bottle brush flowers. Height 60cm.

SETACEUM RUBRUM – Purple fountain grass blooming late summer. Treat as annual. Height 1.5m.

SETACEUM FIREWORKS – Burgundy foliage with red and pink flower and seed head. Height 90cm, spread 65cm.

VILLOSUM – ‘Feathertop grass’ arching clumps of foliage and fluffy white flower heads. Height 40cm.

PHALARIS – Deciduous, hardy and vigorous spreading grass for moist soil in sun or part shade. Variegated cultivars benefit from cutting back in mid summer to encourage fresh growth.

ARUNDINACEA PICTA – ‘Gardeners Garters’ Variety with white striped leaves. Height up to 1m.

ARUNDINARIA FEESEY – Broad white striped leaves flushed pink at base. Flowers flushed purple. Less invasive variety. Height to 1m.

STIPA – Graceful for well drained soil in sun or part shade. Seed heads are good for dried arrangements. Deciduous or semi-evergreen and fully hardy.

ARUNDINACEA – Arching dark green leaves streaked orange in summer and maturing to orange/brown. Pendant clusters of graceful purplish flowers in late summer. Height 1m.

GIGANTEA – ‘Giant oat’ Semi-evergreen clumps of mid-green leaves. Dramatic spikes of oat-like flower heads 50cm long. Height 2.5m, spread 1.2m.

TENUISSIMA – ‘Feather grass’ Narrow foliage and fluffy white plumes in summer. Height 60cm.

UNCINIA RUBRA – Tender evergreen perennial for fertile, moist but well drained soil in sun or dappled shade. Flat shiny leaves range from greenish red to rich mahogany. Small black flowers in late summer. Height 30cm, spread 35cm.

EVERGREEN GRASSES

When planting your beds, consider what will happen over the winter months. These grasses are particularly popular evergreen forms;

CAREX - IN VARIETY
CORTADERIA
DESCHAMPSIA
FESTUCA
HELICTOTRICHON
LUZULA
STIPA

MISCELLANEOUS

ASTELIA – An evergreen clump forming perennial adding a dramatic impact to a sunny border. Also suitable planted in part shade. Will require some protection in more exposed borders.

ASTELIA NERVOSA WESTLAND – Arching silvery bronze sword like leaves. Height and spread 1.2m.

ASTELIA CHATHAMICA SILVER SPEAR – Arching clump of silver linear leaves. Yellow/green flowers followed by orange berries. Height and spread 1.2m.

CORDYLINE ‘Cabbage palm’ – These are evergreen palm like trees with grassy, strap like foliage. They thrive in warm sunny positions with well-drained soil. They need winter protection, especially when young.

AUSTRALIS -Plain green leaves and creamy flowers in summer under suitable conditions. Height 2.5-3.5m.

RED STAR – Dark reddish purple foliage. Height 1.5m.

SPARKLER – Plum purple foliage. Height 1.5m.

SUNDANCE – Narrow foliage has red and pink stripes. Height 2.5-3.5m.

TORBAY DAZZLER - Attractive fountains of cream and green striped foliage. Height 2m.

TORBAY RED – Dark purple red sword like foliage. Height 2m.

PHORMIUM – ‘New Zealand Flax’ Clump forming evergreens make dramatic ‘focal point’ plants. They do best in sunny well-drained positions. Produce tall flower stems after 3-4 years. Protect crowns in hard winters. We offer the following:

APRICOT QUEEN – Low arching form with soft yellow leaves striped apricot and green. Height and spread 1m.

COOKIANUM CREAM DELIGHT – Sword like foliage has a central cream band. Height 1m.

COOKIANUM TRICOLOUR – Green leaves are banded in red and cream. Height 1m.

EVENING GLOW – Rich claret foliage with green margin. Bronze red flowers June-July. Height and spread 1.2m.

FLAMINGO – Striking variety with yellow, green and claret striped foliage. Height 90cm.

JESTER - Green foliage banded in pink and red. Height 1m.

PINK STRIPE – Strap like bronze green leaves edged pink. Height 1.8m.

PLATTS BLACK – Arching strap like ruby red leaves with green margins. Height 1 - 1.5m.

RAINBOW QUEEN – Bronze foliage with reddish pink margins. Height 1.8m.

TENAX – Deep green sword like leaves. Bronze red flowers. Height 1-2m.

TENAX BRONZE BABY – Compact habit. Coppery leaves all year. Good patio plant 60-75cm.

TENAX PURPUREUM - Neat upright bronze purple foliage. Height 1-2m.

TENAX SUNDOWNER – Greyish purple leaves edged with pink and cream. Height 80-120cm.

YELLOW WAVE – Yellow, cream and green arching foliage all year. Height 75-100cm.

TRACHYCARPUS FORTUNEI – ‘Chusan Palm’ Evergreen palm for well-drained soil in full sun or dappled shade. Must be sheltered from cold winds. Has large fan shaped foliage. Ideal for conservatory or sheltered courtyard. Slow growing.

YUCCA – Rosette forming evergreen shrub with bold sword shaped leaves producing tall stalks of flowers July-August. Eventually forming a trunk like stem. Architectural specimen plants for well-drained soil in full sun.

FIL. COLOUR GUARD – Long, narrow, green leaves with gold centre. Height 1m.

GLORIOSA VARIEGATA – Red edged cream flowers narrow green leaves are edged and striped in yellow. Height 1-2m.

**This leaflet is available
in alternative formats.**

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