The Mustard Seed
Landscaping & Garden Centers

Elijah Blue Fescue

Festuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'



Elijah Blue Fescue
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Festuca ovina var. glauca

Description:

A dwarf ornamental grass featuring bright silver-blue foliage; neat mounds of densely tufted leaves stay blue all season long; tall upright tan plumes sway in the breeze; drought tolerant once established, great for containers, beds and borders



Elijah Blue Fescue foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Elijah Blue Fescue is primarily valued in the garden for its interestingly mounded form. Its attractive grassy leaves remain blue in color throughout the year. The tan seed heads are carried on spikes from mid summer to late fall.

Landscape Attributes

Elijah Blue Fescue is an herbaceous evergreen perennial grass with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Elijah Blue Fescue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting



Elijah Blue Fescue in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Elijah Blue Fescue will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 8 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Elijah Blue Fescue is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.