

GRASSES

Grasses are as popular as ever at Rochfords. This is reflected in the wide range of genus and varieties that we grow and source for the Cash and Carry. Many plantings, either commercial or domestic can benefit from the diversity of shapes, subtle lines, differing textures and leaf colour that grasses can provide, making grasses great for mixed borders. Grasses are great used in a sensory garden as they create movement and many are soft to touch too. Many are drought resistant once established and are surprisingly easy to grow.

Genus	Information	Popular varieties
<u>Carex</u> (Sedges)	Mainly evergreen, tolerant of most soils and aspects, versatile. Grown for their colourful foliage and attractive flower spikes.	<u>osh. 'Evergold'</u> – tufted evergreen yellow border <u>mor. 'Fishers Form'</u> – tufted evergreen cream striped leaves
Calamagrostis (Reed grass)	Perennial grass with branching flower spikes. Long-lasting flowerheads and architectural forms.	<u>x acu. 'Karl Foerster'</u> – pink bronze flowers <u>x acu. 'Overdam'</u> – pale yellow margins, purple flowers
Cortaderia (Pampus grass)	Spectacular evergreens with broad arching leaves forming large tussocks. Large silky plumes are borne high above the foliage. Well drained soil and full sun.	<u>selloana</u> – dense clump forming evergreen <u>sel. 'Gold Band'</u> – compact, white leaf margin <u>sel. 'Rosea'</u> – pink flowers
Deschampsia (Hair Grass)	Tufted or tussock forming evergreen perennial grasses. Thin thread like leaves with graceful airy flowerheads.	<u>ces. 'Goldschleier'</u> – flowers age to silver yellow <u>ces. 'Schottland'</u> – vertical form <u>ces. 'Tardiflora'</u> – yellow flowers in autumn
Festuca (Fecue)	Mainly grown for the blue-green or blue-grey foliage. Tufted, evergreen perennial.	<u>glauca</u> – narrow blue green laeves <u>gla. 'Elijah Blue'</u> – intense blue foliage
Hakonechloa (Hakone Grass)	Clump forming perennial grass, prefers well drained soil in full sun or partial shade.	<u>mac. 'Aureola</u> – bright yellow leaves becoming flushed red in autumn
Imperata	Slender stemmed perennial grass grown for their striking foliage	<u>cyl. Red Baron</u> – mid green leaves turning deep blood red at the tips
Luzula (Woodrush)	Evergreen tufted grasses, great in damp shade	<u>sylvatica</u> – chestnut brown flowers <u>syl. 'Aurea'</u> – shiney yellow leaves in winter
Miscanthus (Eulalia Grass)	Large clump forming with tall foliage with tall flower spikes, best in moist well drained soil in sun.	<u>sin. 'Morning Light'</u> – white leaf margin 1.2m <u>sin. 'Strictus'</u> – horizontal gold bands 90cm <u>sin. 'Ferne Osten'</u> – purple/brown flowers 1.2m
Molinia (Moor Grass)	Densely tufted perennial, attractive habit, autumn colour and graceful flower spikes.	<u>cae. aru. 'Karl Foerster'</u> – purple flowerspikes <u>cae. aru. 'Transparent</u> – yellow leaves in autumn
Ophiopogon	Evergreen tufted perennial with grass-like leaves. Full sun or partial shade.	<u>jap 'Nigrescens'</u> – almost black leaves. <u>jap. 'Variegatus'</u> – white striped leaves
Panicum (Panic Grass)	Valued for their light airy flowerheads. Grow in well drained soil in sun.	<u>vir. 'Heavy Metal'</u> – blue grey leaves, yellow in autumn <u>vir. Rehbraun'</u> – rich red foliage in autumn
Pennisetum (Fountain Grass)	Perennial grass forming rounded mounds of dark green leaves, prefer well drained soil in full sun	<u>alopecuroides</u> - yellow/green – purple flowers <u>alo. 'Hameln'</u> – dwarf variety green/white flowers <u>alo. 'Wesbergland'</u> – long flowering
Phalaris (Reed Grass)	Tufted perennial grasses tolerating variable habitats from full sun to partial shade	<u>arun. pic. 'Feeseey'</u> – flushed pin at stem base, leaves have white stripe
Stipa (Feather Grass)	Large genus of perennial grasses worth growing in mixed borders. Attractive flowerheads	<u>arundinacea</u> – pendant flower spikes <u>gigantea</u> – silver/purple spikes up to 2.5m high <u>tenuissima</u> - soft nodding flowers 60cm high <u>ten. 'Pony Tails'</u> – very graceful form.