

Red Flame Switch Grass



Panicum virgatum 'Red Flame'

Switch grass gets its name from the peaceful swishing sound it makes when blowing in the wind. All parts of this grass are very sturdy, and will remain standing thru winter unless snows are heavy. This provides important cover for birds during the coldest days of winter. This grass is very versatile from a design standpoint; it is effective as a specimen, in masses, for screening, alongside ponds or streams, or even in large containers.

- **Use:** A boldly colored grass with native roots, 'Red Flame' is primed to set your garden ablaze in late summer. This warm season grass emerges with blue-green foliage before turning almost completely wine red by summer's end. Compared with classic varieties like 'Shenandoah', 'Red Flame' has a greater saturation of red color on each leaf and incredible vigor. Use this grass for its color, texture, and durability in the landscape.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun– part sun. Drought tolerant once established. Needs at least 4 hours afternoon sun.
- **Growth:** Moderate growing; reaches 3-3.5 ft. tall and 2 ft. wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-8b, Perennial
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. This warm season grass emerges with blue-green foliage before turning almost completely wine red by summer's end. Compared with classic varieties like 'Shenandoah', 'Red Flame' has a greater saturation of red color on each leaf and incredible vigor.
- **Flower:** Starting in late August, the clumps are topped with airy plumes of smoky purple.