

1 gal Standing Ovation Little Bluestem



Native warm-season grasses such as little bluestem are essential larval plant food for several species of skippers as well as prairie walkingsticks, leafhoppers, and grasshoppers. The habitat provided by hav-

ing such a rich diversity of insect life supports birds and other larger invertebrates. Bison, cattle, and other even-toed ungulates consume the foliage. *S. scoparium* can be used in restoration projects, prairies, borders, cottage gardens, and looks best in a group or mass.

Schizachyrium scoparium 'Standing Ovation'

- **Use:** It keeps a tight, upright habit throughout the entire season and has stood strong even in the rich soils of our trial gardens. A warm season grass that does well in poor, dry soils. Spikey bluish-green stems and leaves transition to a sizzling display of oranges, reds, yellows, and purplish-browns in the autumn. Also provides winter interest before cutting back in early spring to make way for new growth. Attracts butterflies, host plant for many skippers. Provides nest sites, cover and food for birds.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers full sun and well drained soil with minimal water applications.
- **Growth:** Grows to 3-4' tall and 12-18" wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zones 3-10, perennial
- **Foliage:** Deciduous; The broom like clumps of thin leaves are tinted blue until fall when they develop masking shades of purple. In fall, the grass turns a rosy rust color that lasts all winter.
- **Flower:** Purplish-bronze flowers appear in 3" long racemes rising above the foliage in August. Fluffy silver seed heads appear in late summer and last well into fall.

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