

Botanical Name: *Helictotrichon sempervirens*

Common Name: Blue Oat Grass

Heh-LIK-tow-TRI-kohn sem-per-VIR-ens

PERENNIAL



Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

Family: Poaceae

Origin: Western Mediterranean

Climate Zone: USDA 4-9, Sunset 1-12, 14-24

Mature Height: 2-3 feet

Mature Width: 2-3 feet

Plant Type: Evergreen

Growth Habit: Symmetrical fountain-like mound

Growth Rate: Fast

Flower Color/Details: Straw colored wisps

Flower Season: Spring and summer

Bark: N/A

Fruit: N/A

Foliage: Stiff, bright blue-gray narrow leaves

Use: Borders, rock gardens, accent, massed, containers, gray garden, as an alternative to the shorter lived *Festuca glauca*.

Floral: Unknown

Wildlife/Beneficials: Attracts butterflies, native bees, ladybugs and birds

Deer Resistant: Yes

Fire Resistant: Yes

Medicinal Uses/Edible: Unknown

Adverse Factors: Rust, flops over in heavy shade, rots in heavy, over-irrigated soils.

Soil: Rich, well drained

Exposure: Full sun, light shade

Water Requirements: Low

WUCOLS Water Needs: L L M M M M

UC Davis Arboretum All-Star: No

Description: Cool season evergreen blue-green bunching grass. Contrast color against other low water maroons such as Purple Smoke Tree, *Cotinus coggygria*. Looks good with other grays such as Jerusalem sage, *Phlomis fruticosa*.

Maintenance: Very low maintenance. Rake out dead leaves with a metal rake or hands for a tidy look throughout the year.



#1 Nursery Container