North Branch Nursery, Inc.
Pemberville, OH 419-287-4679
www.NorthBranchNursery.com

Blue Heaven Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium 'Blue Heaven'

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Little Bluestem

Ornamental Features

Blue Heaven Bluestem is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. The antique red seed heads are carried on showy plumes displayed in abundance from early fall to late winter. Its attractive grassy leaves are bluish-green in color. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous orange in the fall. It has masses of beautiful spikes of light green flowers rising above the foliage in late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The brick red stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Blue Heaven Bluestem is an herbaceous perennial grass with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Blue Heaven Bluestem is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Blue Heaven Bluestem
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Blue Heaven Bluestem will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. 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.

Blue Heaven Bluestem in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder