

Giant Fountain Grass

Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Oceanside'

If you're looking for something different in your landscape, ornamental grasses can't be beat for their variety and versatility. Mention this diverse group of plants and you will evoke a variety of mental images for American gardeners. Ornamental grasses are a very popular group of plants which have become an integral part of many southern gardens. Ornamental grasses are very dynamic and do not maintain a permanent structure in the garden like most shrubs and trees. The size, shape, texture and color of grass will change with every season.

Type: perennial ornamental grass

USDA hardiness zones: 7 through 12

Uses: mass planting; hedge; specimen; ground cover; border; architectural

Origin: native to Florida

Height: 10 to 12 feet **Spread:** 4 to 6 feet

Plant spacing: 4 to 6 feet

Light requirement: full sun to part shade

Soil tolerances: acidic; slightly alkaline; clay; sand; loam

Drought tolerance: moderate

Soil salt tolerances: unknown

Invasive potential: low

Pest resistance: no pests or diseases are of major concern

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Photo: Dave's Garden