Maiden Grass ‘Autumn Red’
*Miscanthis sinensis* var ‘Purpurascens’

Maiden grass is a gracefully arching, fine-textured grass that forms dense, reddish-green clumps. 'Purpurascens' will turn red or orange in fall. Slender leaves originate in a clump, spreading out and up like a fountain. The slightest breeze moves the foliage, allowing the landscape to come alive. Leaves droop and weep toward the ground as do many of the other cultivars. The 3 to 4 foot tall clumps bear silver-pink flowers in late summer and fall that can be used for drying or as a dye plant. Their pinkish or silvery 8 to 10 inch long plumes persist into the winter. Cut Maiden grass to the ground each spring in order to encourage new growth. Propagate maiden grass by division in early spring. *Miscanthus sinensis* is a warm season grass and transplants best in the spring. Provide good drainage at the planting site.

**Type:** herbaceous ornamental grass

**USDA hardiness zones:** 7 through 9

**Uses:** mass planting; border; container or above-ground planter; screen; accent

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Height:** 3 to 4 feet  
**Spread:** 3 to 5 feet

**Plant spacing:** 3 to 5 feet

**Light requirement:** full sun

**Soil tolerances:** occasionally wet; acidic; sand; loam; clay; slightly alkaline

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Soil salt tolerances:** poor

**Invasive potential:** aggressive, spreading plant

**Pest resistance:** no serious pests are normally seen on the plant

Photo: UF/IFAS