

Maiden Grass

Miscanthus sinensis var 'Super Stripe'

Maiden grass is a gracefully arching, fine-textured grass that forms dense, green clumps. 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 5- to 6-foot-tall clumps bear 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. This shrub-like grass turns to a rich gold in the fall; the fall color lasts through 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.

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INFORMATION**

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: 5 to 6 feet **Spread:** 5 to 10 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