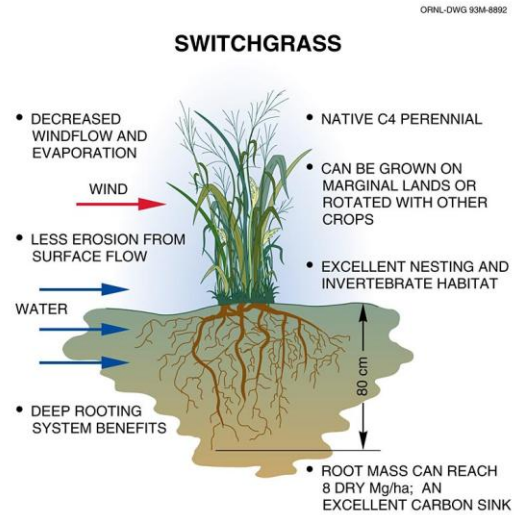


Switchgrass

Panicum virgatum



Switchgrass is a native, perennial, warm season, sod forming tall grass with vigorous roots, which reproduces from underground stems and seed. It can be identified by a small nest of hair where the blade attaches to the sheath. Switchgrass has rather large seed with a spangled-type seed head, on stalks 3 to 6 feet tall. The green to bluish-green leaves are usually from one-fourth to one-half inch wide and 6 – 18 inches long.

This grass is found growing throughout the bluestem belt of the eastern and central Great Plains and on certain prairie sites in other parts of the United States. Switchgrass is best adapted to lower areas of moist soils, but is winter hardy and drought resistant, thus found growing under a wide range of soils and climatic conditions.

Switchgrass is very nutritious and readily eaten by all classes of livestock, either as green forage or in prairie hay. It has moderate salt tolerance and can be used for soil conservation, warm season pasture, hay, wildlife habitat, and has become a potential source for bio-energy production. In fall, this plant has a red cast and turns orange/yellow in winter.

Seeding Rate: Drilled: 5 PLS Lbs. / Ac | Broadcast: 1 PLS Lb. / 4,200 sq ft
Height Range (inches): 48 - 60
Seeds Per Pound: 389,000

Taxonomy

Species: virgatum

Genus: Panicum

Family: Poaceae

Order: Cyperales

Subclass: Commelinidae

Class: Liliopsida

Division: Magnoliophyta

Subkingdom: Tracheobionta

Kingdom: Plantae

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