

# Ornamental Grasses Planted at the North Florida Research and Education Center<sup>1</sup>

Table 1. Cultivars of *Miscanthus sinensis* planted at NFREC (Quincy) for evaluation of ornamental qualities and potential invasiveness.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Origin	Description
'Adagio' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Adagio'	Garden Origin/Asia	Thin silver grey leaves. Blooms late summer with a pink seedhead turning white (4 ft.).
'Arabesque' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Arabesque'	Garden Origin/Asia	Compact grower with narrow green leaves. Forms seedheads in late summer (3-4 ft.).
'Gracillimus' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Gracillimus'	Garden Origin/Asia	Seedheads in October are bronze-red turning silver (5-6 ft.).
'Graziella' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Graziella'	Garden Origin/Asia	Similar to 'Gracillimus' with fine foliage but seedheads form in August and are held above the foliage. Foliage can turn red-orange in the fall (5-6 ft.).
'Little Kitten' Dwarf Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Little Kitten'	Garden Origin/Asia	Dwarf miscanthus that forms a mound of narrow green foliage topped with plumes in late summer and fall (1+ ft.).
'Morning Light' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Morning Light'	Garden Origin/Asia	Grows 4 to 5 feet tall with red-bronze plumes in October.
'Puenktchen' Little Dot Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Puenktchen'	Garden Origin/Asia	Resembles a miniature 'Strictus' with similar, horizontally banded, yellow variegation on a smaller plant (3-5 ft.).
'Sarabande' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Sarabande'	Garden Origin/Asia	Very narrow foliage on a plant growing 5 to 6 ft. tall.
'Silberfeder' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Silberfeder'	Garden Origin/Asia	Green leaves with silver midrib. Silver seedheads in late summer (5-6 ft.).
'Strictus' Japanese	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Garden	Grows 6 to 8 feet tall and has green

<sup>1</sup>November 2006.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Origin	Description
Silver Grass	'Strictus'	Origin/Asia	leaves with horizontal yellow bands. A substitute for 'Zebrinus'.
'Cabaret' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> var. <i>condensatus</i> 'Cabaret'	Garden Origin/Asia	Vigorous grower with wide, ribbon-like foliage with a creamy-white center and dark green margins (<9 ft.).
'Central Park' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> var. <i>condensatus</i> 'Central Park'	Garden Origin/Asia	Another vigorous grower similar to 'Cabaret' but with solid green foliage (<9 ft.).
'Cosmopolitan' Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> var. <i>condensatus</i> 'Cosmopolitan'	Garden Origin/Asia	Nearly identical to 'Cabaret' except with a reverse variegation. Leaves have a green center and wide, creamy-white margins (<9 ft.).
Variegated Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Variegatus'	Garden Origin/Asia	Grows 5 to 7 feet tall with cream colored variegated leaves. Blooms in late September.
'Zebrinus' Variegated Japanese Silver Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i> 'Zebrinus'	Garden Origin/Asia	Green leaves with yellow horizontal banding. Reddish seedheads in autumn (5-7 ft.).

Table 2. Ornamental grasses being evaluated in a landscape establishment study.

*Andropogon virginicus*  
*Eragrostis elliotii*  
*Miscanthus sinensis* 'Adagio'  
*Miscanthus sinensis* var. *condensatus* 'Central Park'  
*Muhlenbergia capallaris*  
*Panicum virgatum* 'Prairie Sky'  
*Panicum virgatum* 'Rotstrahbusch'  
*Pennisetum alopecuroides* 'Hameln'  
*Schizachyrium scoparium*  
*Tripsacum dactyloides*

Table 3. Selections of *Muhlenbergia capillaris* being evaluated for ornamental qualities.

(Florida ecotype – white form)  
 (Florida ecotype 1)  
 (Florida ecotype 10)  
 (Florida ecotype 2)  
 (Florida ecotype 3)  
 (Florida ecotype 4)  
 (Florida ecotype 5)  
 (Florida ecotype 6)  
 (Florida ecotype 7)

(Florida ecotype 8)

(Florida ecotype 9)

(nursery-grown purple form)

'White Cloud'