JOB'S NURSERY, LLC
GROWING SINCE 1940

Switch Grass, Shenandoah

Panicum virgatum 'Shenandoah'



Switch Grass, Shenandoah
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 32 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Ornamental Features

Switch Grass, Shenandoah features airy plumes of rose flowers rising above the foliage in mid summer. Its attractive grassy leaves are green in color with prominent ruby-red tips. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous burgundy in the fall. The brick red seed heads are carried on showy plumes displayed in abundance from late summer to mid fall. The brick red stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

Landscape Attributes

Switch Grass, Shenandoah is an herbaceous perennial grass with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Switch Grass, Shenandoah is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



Switch Grass, Shenandoah foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

JOB'S NURSERY, LLC
GROWING SINCE 1940

Planting & Growing

Switch Grass, Shenandoah will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 32 inches. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selection of a native North American species. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.



Switch Grass, Shenandoah fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder