

# BIG SIOUX NURSERY, INC.

16613 Sioux Conifer Road  
Watertown, South Dakota 57201  
Phone: 605-886-6806

## NATIVE GRASSES



### Bluestem, Big 'Bonilla'

*Andropogon gerardii* 'Bonilla'  
Native. Warm season. Major component of tallgrass prairie. Produces "turkey foot" seed heads. Plants turn red in the fall and remain upright in winter. Excellent cattle food. Grows 3-7 feet tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Indiangrass, 'Tomahawk'

*Sorghastrum nutans* 'Tomahawk'  
Native. Warm season. Major component of tall grass prairie. Grows best on moist soil. Produces seeds in large, fluffy terminal panicles. Interesting landscape plant. Grows 3-6 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Sweetgrass

*Hierochloa odorata*  
Native. Cool-season grass inhabits wet, sandy soil along rivers and lakes. Crushed leaves smell like vanilla or sweet clover due to coumarin content. Native American cultures burn dried sweetgrass braids in traditional ceremonies. Spreads vigorously if weeds are controlled and soil is moist. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Cordgrass, Prairie 'Red River'

*Spartina pectinata* 'Red River'  
Native, warm season, tall grass for wet sites. Originally selected from native stands in SD, ND, MN. Spreads to form a colony by thick rhizomatous roots. Leaves have sharp edges. Can stabilize soil and filter water in riparian areas. Interesting seedheads. Moderate tolerance to high soil salt conditions. Grows 3-8 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Grama, Blue 'Bad River' Ecotype

*Bouteloua gracilis* 'Bad River'  
Native. Warm season. Short, drought tolerant plants produce interesting "eyebrow" seedheads. Use as garden accent, edging plant, or for low maintenance turf. Grows 4-12" tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Bluestem, Little 'Badlands' ecotype

*Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Badlands'  
Native. Warm season, perennial bunchgrass which grows in mixed-grass prairie. Drought tolerant. Often grows on dry hillsides. Attractive seed heads are fluffy when mature. Foliage turns pinkish-red in autumn. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Buffalograss 'Bowie'

*Buchloe dactyloides* 'Bowie'  
Native. Warm season, short grass for the prairie garden or for fine-leaved turf. Spreads by stolons to form small colony. Likes clay soil. Shade intolerant. Low water & fertilizer requirements. Turf needs little mowing to look neat. Greens up later in spring and goes dormant earlier in the fall than bluegrass. Grows 3-6" tall.



### Grama, Sideoats 'Pierre'

*Bouteloua curtipendula* 'Pierre'  
Native. Warm season, leafy, sod-forming midgrass. Seeds hang along one side of the flower stalks, adding landscape appeal. Produces bright orange pollen. Interesting garden plant. Grows 8-24" tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Switchgrass, 'Dacotah'

*Panicum virgatum* 'Dacotah'  
Native. Tall, warm-season, perennial sod grass. Seedhead is an airy panicle. Turns golden yellow in fall/winter. Usually remains upright during winter. Birds make some use of seeds. Grows 3-5 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Dropseed, Prairie

*Sporobolus heterolepis*  
Native. Warm season. Produces nearly circular tufts of fine leaves which are 4-10" in diameter. Grows in wetter mixed grass prairies. Very attractive in bloom and seed. Interesting accent plant. Can be used to line walkways and edge gardens. Grows 1-3 ft. tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center



### Wildrye, Canada 'Mandan'

*Elymus canadensis* 'Mandan'  
Native. NRCS release from Morton County, ND. A cool-season perennial with whimsical drooping seedheads. Easy to grow in average to moist soil. Seedheads provide winter interest in the garden or landscape. Grows 2-4' tall.  
Photo Credit: USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center