2641 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba

RON PAUL
GARDEN CENTRE

We've Got It All!

Phone: (204) 257-2893
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Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye

Elymus canadensis 'Icy Blue'



Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 feet

Flower Height: 4 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

A cool season grass that features stunning bright metallic blue foliage and a clumping, upright arching habit; nodding green seed heads appear above the foliage in spring before turning tan in the summer; low maintenance and easy to grow

Ornamental Features

Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye features airy green flowers rising above the foliage from late spring to early summer. Its attractive grassy leaves remain silvery blue in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye is an herbaceous annual with a shapely form and gracefully arching foliage. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity extending to 4 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 3 feet. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. 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.

Icy Blue Canada Wild Rye is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.