Salisbury Greenhouse and Landscaping

232 Range Road
P.O. Box 3093
Sherwood Park, AB, T8H 2T1
phone: 780-467-5743
info@salisburygreenhouse.com
www.salisburygreenhouse.com

Bearskin Fescue

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Festuca scoparia 'Pic Carlit'



Bearskin Fescue
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 2 inches

Flower Height: 4 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Festuca gautieri scoparia

Description:

This grass is valued for its extremely low mounding finely textured clumps of vivid bright green foliage; small flower spikes are not showy; excellent for small area planting in a rock garden

Ornamental Features

Bearskin Fescue is primarily valued in the garden for its interestingly mounded form. Its attractive grassy leaves remain light green in colour throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Bearskin Fescue is an herbaceous evergreen perennial grass with a mounded form. 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 has no significant negative characteristics.

Bearskin Fescue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Bearskin Fescue will grow to be only 2 inches tall at maturity extending to 4 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 8 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 8 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

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This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Bearskin Fescue is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

This plant is not reliably hardy in our region, and certain restrictions may apply; contact the store for more information.