



Variegated Sweet Grass

Glyceria maxima 'Variegata'

Height: 32 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Reed Sweet Grass, Manna Grass

Ornamental Features

Variegated Sweet Grass' attractive grassy leaves are green in color with showy creamy white variegation. The foliage often turns tan in fall. Neither the flowers nor the fruit are ornamentally significant.

Landscape Attributes

Variegated Sweet Grass 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 high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Invasive

Variegated Sweet Grass is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Variegated Sweet Grass will grow to be about 32 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. 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 fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 years.



Variegated Sweet Grass foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. 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.

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