TAGAWA gardens

Elijah Blue Fescue

Festuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'

Plant Height: 8 inches

Flower Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Festuca ovina var. glauca



Elijah Blue Fescue
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Elijah Blue Fescue foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Elijah Blue Fescue is primarily valued in the garden for its interestingly mounded form. Its attractive grassy leaves remain blue in color throughout the season. The tan seed heads are carried on spikes from mid summer to late fall.

Landscape Attributes

Elijah Blue Fescue is an herbaceous 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. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Elijah Blue Fescue is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

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Planting & Growing

Elijah Blue Fescue will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity extending to 12 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 8 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 dry locations, and dislikes excessive moisture. 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 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.



Elijah Blue Fescue in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Elijah Blue 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.