

Little Bluestem

Little Bluestem is a native prairie grass that grows in short, round clumps with slender, burgundy florets. Blue-green foliage turns a golden-red in the fall. It is a beneficial plant for pollinators, beneficial insects, and birds in a prairie ecosystem. It grows in full sun and tolerates dry soil.

Type: Perennial

Height: 90 cm (36")

Exposure: Full sun

Difficulty: Easy



Growing

Seeds do not require cold stratification, but can be sown in the late fall. Seeds can be started indoors 4-6 weeks before the last frost and transplanted outside in late spring. They can also be direct sown in early spring.

Sow seeds shallowly at only 3mm (1/8") deep. Seeds should sprout in 1-2 weeks. Space plants at 30-60 cm (12-24") apart.

Saving

Seeds can be harvested in fall when seed heads turn brown, dry, and begin to fall apart. Strip seeds from the stems by hand, placing them in a paper bag to dry for a month. Then, put the seeds into a dated and labelled envelope and return to Brock!