



### **Grasses Aplenty!**

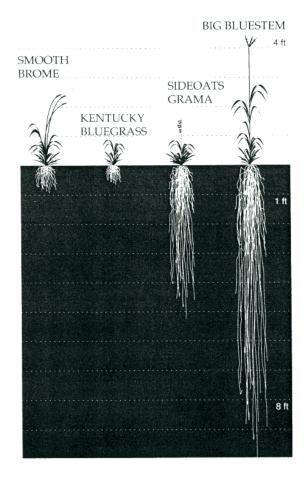
### **Native Grasses:**

A few benefits of native plantings include wildlife habitat, soil stabilization, and food sources. The impressive 8 foot deep root of the Bluestem family allows it to better handle our extreme shifts in weather. Not only can they search deeper for available water, but that expansive root system will also use more water than helping to soak up excessive moisture.

#### **Introduced Grasses**

#### **Native Grasses**

Below you will find some highlights on a few native grasses we carry.





# Prairie Dropseed

2' x 2'
Zone 3
Deer Resistant
A graceful mounding grass with a unique scent when in bloom.
Some say it smells like popcorn.

Plains people used to crush the seeds and use it as a flour for baking.

### **Little Bluestem**

3-4' tall and wide Zone 3



Nature Hills Nursery

#### Deer Resistant

This plant emerges with the beautiful blue tones and retains them throughout the growing season. As the nights cool, the fall colors begin to set in.

Easy care with great disease resistance.

## Blackhawks Big Bluestem

4-5' tall and 2-3' wide
Zone 3
Deer Resistant
By mid- to late summer, leaf
tips and nodes turn purple, and
burgundy red inflorescences
emerge. As nights cool, the
entire plant intensifies to a
dark, rich purple that's almost
black. Prefers a well-drained



soil.

## Blue Heaven Little Blue Stem

4' tall and 2' wide
Zone 3
Adaptable to a clay soil
Deer Resistant
Salt Tolerant
Excellent blue grey foliage will turn a mix of

burgundy red, pink and orange in the fall.
Glossy purple seed plumes become fluffy
tan in late summer.





### **Big Bluestem**

9-10' tall

Zone 3
Great for privacy
Deer Resistant

Beautiful blue tones are a showy welcome throughout the summer. This monster grass is excellent for narrow privacy in a full to part sun area. Excellent for erosion control.

## **Baileys Nursery: The Culture Behind the Plant Stock**

Justin, Loretta, and myself were lucky enough to travel to Minnesota to tour the Bailey Nurseries facilities. This company strives for better plant genetics in a constantly evolving market. "These cutting-edge genetics aim to

not only fulfill the consumer desire for new varieties, but also offer stronger horticultural benefits to our customers."

We met multiple employees who had been with the company for over 20 years. In a time when labor in the horticulture industry is tough to come by, Bailey is doing a great job of maintaining a culture where everyone matters. Bailey Nursery is a fifth-generation company.



We enjoyed a BBQ at the current owner's property. As usual, we had lots of fun taking pictures including this one under his Weeping Larch.

From our outside sales rep, to the current owners, everyone seemed to genuinely care on all levels. The trip was a great way for each side of the industry to learn from one another.

We were able to tour multiple container grown shrub lots, pot-in-pot tree lots, and softwood cutting greenhouses. The facilities are conscious of water management, disease prevention, and streamlining labor efforts.

#### A few fun facts:

They fabricate almost all of their own equipment to meet their needs. This includes their new remote controlled shrub pruning machine. Built by their fabrication department from the ground up to ensure even pruning from start to finish.

They steam sanitize their softwood cutting sand to optimize success rates by lowering disease concerns.

One person "batch pulls" plant material to ensure the quality is consistent from start to finish.

Overall, we walked away from the trip gaining a greater appreciation for the field workers long hours and meticulous attention to detail that Bailey Nursery provides.



Thousands of cuttings of Hydrangea.



Bloomstruck Hydrangea enjoying the soft Minnesota sunlight.



Holy Roses!!! Note the perfectly spaced containers

### Plant Highlight: Passionate Hydrangea



WOW!!!! Talk about size!

These blooms are 12-18" long and can handle full to part sun. It is cold hardy to zone 4 and blooms July-September. Great for privacy or a stand alone specimen planting. Come quick! At 30% off through Sunday they will start flying out of here (staff members included)!

8-10' tall and wide





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