

TOM'S BAMBOO

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Master List

Fargesia Murialae

UMBRELLA BAMBOO -20° 10-12'

This plant is one of the most cold hardy of all bamboos due to its growing conditions, up to 10,000' in elevation in China. The slowly spreading dense mass of green canes forms a stout column at the base and is topped by a dense mat of breezy pea-green foliage. The umbrella bamboo needs some shade to show off its foliage.

Fargesia Dracocephala

DRAGONS BREATH -10° 12-14'

This very hardy leafy plant grows best in a sunny location where it produces a wealth of mid-green leaves on yellow-green canes. Its very dramatic growth habit is clumping with upright even spiky foliage. The dragons' breath bamboo is one of the food plants of the giant Panda in China.

Fargesia Rufa

RUFA -10° 8'

Being one of the food plants of the giant Panda the Rufa has the ability to produce a prolific number of culms each year. Reddish colored culms have an upright habit that is very appealing with its smaller stature and contrast nicely with the pale to dark green of its leaves. Valuable for growing in small areas or containers.

Phyllostachys Aurea

GOLDEN -5° 10-12'

This compact species has stout green canes with lower internodes that are closely packed and distorted to various degrees. This species is often cultivated for its ornamental value in gardens. Called the fishpole bamboo in China. It is appreciated for its clumping tendencies and slow spreading.

Phyllostachys Aureosulcata

YELLOWGROOVE -20° 16-20'

Visually interesting in that large percentage of mature culms have pronounced zig-zag in internodes near base. Very hardy plant and can take northeaster and still flourish. Very upright growing habit, but will bend slightly in rain and snow. However, it will soon spring right back.

Phyllostachys Aureosulcata F. Aureocaulis

GOLDEN CROOKSTEM -15° 16'

This very elegant bamboo, cousin to the Yellowgroove, is usually referred to as the golden crook stem because of its somewhat kinky butter yellow canes. On some stems, random green striping occurs with some random white or yellow striping on some leaves. New shoots are almost translucent with tones of red. Compact plant shows no tendency to spread.

Phyllostachys Bambusoides

MADAKE -18° 25-30'

This giant tree grass is prized for its tall straight and strong canes. Among the best bamboo wood produced, the canes are often used for furniture. The canes are also among the longest lived, lasting twice as long as some other bamboos. Forming a dense clump in cooler regions it uses much less ground to achieve full size.

Phyllostachys Bissetii

BISSETTI -20° 10-16'

Shiny dark green canes with dense and supple foliage. Richest green-blue of all the northwest hardy bamboos. Especially well adapted to cold climates and northeasters. Use as a hedge or as a stand alone specimen. Fastest grower and spreader for screens.

Phyllostachys Dulcis

SWEET SHOOT -5° 22-26'

This large, strong-growing species is very useful for creating a timber grove in cooler regions. The culms are well spaced and quickly attain large diameters. A rock and roll bamboo, big and brash.

Phyllostachys Edulis

MOSO -5° 35'

This majestic plant is much in demand, but will only reach full height in favorable conditions, such as warm temperatures, very fertile soils and good light. In China it grows in forests and is one of the world's top commercial bamboos. It is difficult to establish, taking several years to get going, but is well worth the wait. Its new shoots often emerge early in the year and are a distinguished grey-green almost pale blue.

Phyllostachys Flexuosa

ZIG-ZAG -5° 14-18'

Flexuosa is a cold hardy plant that will tolerate difficult growing conditions, including wind and soils that are saline, sandy, or alkaline. Some culms show pronounced zig-zags with a yellow cane. Grows somewhat erect with a graceful arching habit. Branching is loose and open.

Phyllostachys Heteroclada Purpurpata

WATER BAMBOO -5° 16-18'

Has a very upright erect growth habit. This bamboo makes a good narrow screen. Can grow and prosper in very wet soil. Attains height and fills out quickly.

Phyllostachys Nigra

BLACK -10° 16-18'

Black canes are this plant's most striking feature. Foliage remains evergreen down to 0° or so, but plant usually shows some winter stress due to cold. Be sure to mulch deeply for winter. Canes start

out green but turn a rich dark black by second year. Plant has a very moderate spread and is appealing as an individual specimen.

Phyllostachys Nigra Boryana

BORY -10° 20'

This member of the Black bamboo family shows its color with cloudy black and brown patterns randomly placed on otherwise green canes. Variable in growth habit it can form dense clumps in cool areas to open groves in warmer areas. A distinctive ornamental, Bory has the small leaves and typical foliage display of its type but is larger, more erect and more heat tolerant.

Phyllostachys Nigra Henonis

HENON -10° 20-30'

This graceful giant has a light feathery look and is very hardy and easy to grow. The thin walled but strong shiny culms make this bamboo a favorite of craft people everywhere. A slow starter but once it gets established stand back and watch it grow. This was my first bamboo and is still my favorite.

Phyllostachys Nigra Megurochiku

MEGUROCHIKU -10° 20-24'

Megurochiku grows similar to Bory in size but is distinguished by the dark black groove that eventually shows on otherwise green canes. Older canes turn to pale yellow-green and with the dark striping in the grooves are incredibly beautiful. Growing naturally only on the Japanese island of Awaji this bamboo was protected from collection; however it has since made its way to collectors who treasure its colors, foliage and dense habit.

Phyllostachys Vivax

VIVAX -15° 25-35'

A must for any serious grower this species is the true Northwest timber. Its large canes when shooting are truly awesome. The canes can grow 3-4" with generous applications of manure and water. Vivax needs ten years to reach full potential but worth the wait. "It looks like I'm in Hawaii", said one visitor.

Phyllostachys Vivax F. Aureocaulis

GOLDEN VIVAX -15° 20-24'

This is a choice ornamental timber bamboo that differs from its type by having golden yellow canes with random green striping. Slow growing and somewhat clumping this bamboo is well worth waiting for. An outstanding plant that is rarely so invasive it will show up uninvited in another part of the garden. This bamboo always adds beauty quickly to any setting.

Pleiblastus Chino

CHINO -25° 8-10'

Hardy bush sized bamboo is distinguished by masses of variegated foliage produced by whorls of branches placed on delicate culms. Plant grows in a pleasant dome shape if left untrimmed but looks very good if trimmed into classic hedge shape. Visually interesting plant and sure to become a favorite.

Psuedosasa Owatarii

DWARF -10° 1-2'

A very useful dwarf bamboo that retains the classic color and shape of large bamboos. Excellent for understory and ground cover plantings. Also useful to Bonsai applications. Its diminutive size is a real charmer.

Psuedosasa Japonica

ARROW -20° 8-16'

Excellent plant for an individual specimen or as a water accent near a hot tub or pool. Its growing habits and broad leaves give it a tropical look and feel. Extremely hardy and easy to care for. Classic dependable plant that everyone should have

Sasa Palmata

PALMATA -10° 6-8'

Largest leaves of the bamboos available here. Will stay at 4-6' in shade or under trees but will grow to 8' in full sun. Very appealing foliage plant. In Japan it's called "Forest Bamboo" and the large leaves are often used for wrapping pastry rice and fish.

Semiarundinaria Fastuosa

STATELY -10° 20-30'

Wonderful plant for hedges or as an individual specimen. Its tall columnar growing habit gives it its growing reputation. The upright culms with short interlocking branches make this the perfect plant for screens and hedges. No droop of branches in rain or now.