

**Botanical Name:** *Muhlenbergia rigens*

**Common Name:** Deer Grass



**Family:** Poaceae

**Habitat:** Sandy plains, washes, grasslands

**Native Distribution:** SW United States, Mexico

**Elevation:** Up to 7,000 ft

**Hardiness:** 10°F

**Type:** Evergreen

**Size:** 3' tall x 4' wide

**Shape:** Bunching

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Flowers:** 12" narrow tan flower spikes

**Bloom Season:** Summer to fall

**Fruit:** Tan seeds

**Foliage:** Deep medium green blades

**Exposure:** Full/reflected/part sun

**Shade:** N/A

**Water Requirements:** Low

***Muhlenbergia rigens* (Deer Grass) in Phoenix**

**xeriscapes:** Deer Grass softens Phoenix xeriscapes, especially around taller cacti and boulders. Use *Muhlenbergia rigens* in a mass planting or add around a water feature or swimming pool for lush effect. Helps with erosion control. Very versatile. Low litter, no thorns.

**Wildlife:** N/A

**More about *Muhlenbergia rigens* (Deer Grass):**

- Deer Grass adds a more lush look than other *Muhlenbergia* grasses do.
- *Muhlenbergia rigens* will start turning brown at temps below freezing.
- Provide regular irrigation to Deer Grass during the summer for healthier look.
- *Muhlenbergia rigens* tolerates most well-draining soil.
- Shear spent flower spikes and foliage in late fall.
- Deer Grass won't readily re-seed in xeriscapes like other grasses can.