

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.