

Plants for Raingardens

Grasses & sedges

Common name	Scientific name	Habit	Moisture tolerance and sun	Origin
Zebra grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Perennial, deciduous grass	Full sun	Non-native. Tussock forming ornamental grass with silky flowers.
Switch grass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Deciduous perennial grass	Full sun	Non-native. Tussock forming ornamental grass.
Tufted hair grass	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Deciduous perennial grass	Any	Native. Medium height grass.
Reed sweet grass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>	Perennial grass	Wetter, sunny conditions	Native. Vigorous and spreading, preferring wetter conditions.
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effuse</i>	Evergreen perennial	Full sun or partial shade	Native. Form tussocks – likely to prefer wetter areas.
Hard rush	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Evergreen perennial	Full sun or partial shade	Native. Form tussocks – likely to prefer wetter areas.
Purple Moor grass	<i>Molinia caerulea</i>	Perennial grass	Any	Native. Forms large tussocks.
Bulrush spp	<i>Typha spp</i>		Wetter conditions, full sun	Naturalised. Vigorous and tall plants. Prefers wetter areas.
Sweet vernal grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>		Full sun	Native. Early flowering, medium height grass. Likely to prefer drier areas.
Slender Tufted Sedge	<i>Carex acuta</i>	Sedge	Wetter, sunny conditions	Native. Medium, purple flowering sedge.
Grey Sedge	<i>Carex divulsa</i>	Sedge	Wetter, shady conditions	Native. Smaller, upright plant. Likely to prefer wetter areas.
Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>	Sedge	Any	Native. Green-brown sedge. Likely to prefer drier areas.
Common Sedge	<i>Carex nigra</i>	Sedge	Any	Native. Smaller, early flowering plant.
Great Tussock Sedge	<i>Carex paniculata</i>	Sedge	Wetter, shady conditions	Native. Forms large upright tussocks.
Pendulous Sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i>	Sedge	Full sun or partial shade	Native. Nodding flower spikes. Likely to prefer wetter areas.
Bottle Sedge	<i>Carex rostrate</i>	Sedge	Drier, sunny to semi-shade conditions	Native. Tall plant with bottle shaped green-brown flowers.
Wood Sedge	<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Sedge	Wetter, shady conditions	Native. Densely tufted, early flowering plant with drooping flower spikes.
Sheeps Fescue	<i>Festuca ovina</i>	Perennial grass	Dry meadow grass	Native. Short, slow growing forming dense tussocks.

Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Perennial grass	Wetter, shady conditions	Native. Short, bright green grass, tufted rather than dense
Crested Dogstail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Perennial grass	Wetter, sunny conditions	Native. Short-lived, tufted, low growing grass.