Panicum virgatum

'Hot Rod' PP#26,074

Emerald Coast Growers | Royalty Fee

Panicum virgatum ‘Hot Rod’ is a compact, ornamental switchgrass that stands out for its earlier and more dramatic foliage color than other switch grass cultivars. Starting with blue-green leaves in spring, the plant quickly transitions to deep burgundy by early summer, providing vibrant color throughout the entire growing season.

This cultivar reaches a height of 3 to 4 feet with a narrow, upright form, making it perfect for smaller gardens, containers, or borders. It’s known for its sturdy, upright stems, which resist flopping, even in windy or rainy conditions. In late summer, airy, reddish-purple flower panicles rise above the foliage, offering additional visual interest that persists into winter. ‘Hot Rod’ is adaptable to various soil types, drought-tolerant once established, and hardy in USDA Zones 4 through 9, making it a versatile and reliable choice for both residential and commercial landscapes.

“Photo courtesy of PlantHaven International, planthaven.com”

Common Name
Switch Grass

Variety
'Hot Rod'

Zone
Zone 4

Mature Size
3'+H x 3'+W

Bloom Time
July-August

Plant Type

Flower Color

Red

BRIGGS NURSERY

715 S Bank Road
Elma, Washington
United States 98541

Tel: 1-800-444-1515
Fax: 360-482-6187

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