

When To Cut Back Ornamental Grasses in Spring

For Landscapes in Colorado's Front Range

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		When to Cut Back		
		Early Date	Ideal Date	No Later Than
Common Name	Botanical Name			
Blue oat grass, Blue avena grass	<i>Helictotrichon sempervirens</i>	Jan 1 st	Jan 1 st	Feb 1 st
Mexican feather grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	Jan 1 st	Feb 1 st	Mar 1 st
Blue fescue 'Boulder Blue,' 'Elijah Blue,' 'Sea Urchin'	<i>Festuca cinerea</i> , <i>F. glauca</i>	Jan 1 st	Feb 1 st	Mar 1 st
Idaho fescue 'Siskiyou Blue'	<i>Festuca idahoensis</i>	Jan 1 st	Feb 1 st	Mar 1 st
Feather reed grass 'Karl Foerster,' 'Overdam,' 'Avalanche'	<i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i>	Feb 1 st	Feb 15 th	Mar 1 st
Korean feather reed grass	<i>Calamagrostis brachytricha</i>	Feb 1 st	Feb 15 th	Mar 1 st
Ruby muhly grass 'Undaunted'	<i>Muhlenbergia reverchonii</i>	Feb 1 st	Feb 15 th	Mar 1 st
Blonde Ambition blue grama grass	<i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> 'Blonde Ambition'	Feb 1 st	Feb 15 th	Mar 1 st
Giant sacaton 'Windbreaker'	<i>Sporobulus wrightii</i>	Feb 1 st	Feb 15 th	Mar 1 st
Little bluestem 'Blaze,' 'The Blues,' 'Standing Ovation'	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Mar 31 st
Switchgrass 'Shenandoah,' 'Heavy Metal,' 'Prairie Sky,' 'Northwind'	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Apr 15 th
Maiden grass 'Gracillimus,' 'Zebrinus,' 'Variegatus,' 'Silberfeder'	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Apr 15 th
Indian grass 'Thin Man,' 'Sioux Blue'	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Apr 15 th
Big bluestem 'Windwalker'	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Apr 15 th
Hardy pampas grass	<i>Erianthus (Saccharum) ravennae</i>	Feb 1 st	Mar 15 th	Apr 15 th