

Calamagrostis canadensis

Blue Joint Grass

Preferred Water Depth and Inundation Tolerance

Prefers saturated soil. Tolerates temporary spring flooding up to a depth of 6 inches early in the season. Species does not tolerate permanent flooding.

Wildlife Value

Waterfowl eat seeds. Young plants are grazed by deer and muskrats.

Application/Zone

Used in upper shoreline zones and in vegetated swales.

Availability, Establishment, and Maintenance

- Locally, plugs have been most successful. These should be planted on 0.5-1.5 foot centers because of their slow spread by rhizomes.
- Soil should be moist to saturated, but not inundated during planting.
- Established stands may be mowed in alternate years for maintenance.
- *C. canadensis* rarely produces seed and even when it does, the seed is rarely viable.
- Can spread aggressively by rhizome under optimal conditions.

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Mature Height

2-5 feet

Plant Type

Perennial grass

Indicator Status

Obligate

pH

5-8

Nutrient Load Tolerance

Low

Salt Tolerance

Low

Siltation Tolerance

Moderate

Flowering Color and Time

Brown

May to August

Light Preference

Full sun

Seeding Rate

.03 - .06 lbs/acre

