

Bamboo

The bamboo family is a very large member of the grass family. Some sources estimate there to be about 300 varieties. Many are difficult to find. In some, the differences are so subtle it is not important. The following is a list of varieties we often carry.

Some varieties are not available all of the time. Bamboo thrives when they are planted in rich soil with a high organic content. They prefer being moist. Feed regularly with high nitrogen fertilizers for faster growth and deep rich green foliage. You can keep the height of the plants listed to about half size by pruning off the tops, which may cause 'branching'.

Running bamboo may need to be contained to avoid problems with nearby plantings. Some can easily go under a 4' sidewalk. Root barriers are often used to reduce this problem.

Variety	Common Name	Diameter	Height	Grows In	Temp (F)	Remarks
Bambusa beecheyana	Beechy Bamboo	5"-5"	30'-40'	Clump	15	One of the largest varieties, arching at the top
B. multiplex	Hedge Bamboo	1.5"	15'-20'	Clump	15	Forms dense growth for hedges and screens
B. m. "Alphonse Karr"	Stripe Stem Bamboo	.5"-1.5"	20'-30'	Clump	15	Interesting pink & green stripes on canes, very dense
B.m. 'Fern Leaf'	Fern Leaf Bamboo	.5"	15'-20'	Clump	15	Smaller leaves set closely gives a fern-like look
B. m. 'Golden Goddess'	Golden Goddess Bamboo	.5"	8'-10'	Clump	15	Graceful, dense arching growth. Container or screen
B. oldhami	Giant Clumping Timber Bamboo	3.5"-4"	30'-40'	Clump	15	Dense foliage on vertical clumps. Impressive plant
B. textilis	none	2"	30'-40'	Clump	13	Tall, gracefully arching at the top
B. tulodides	Punting Pole Bamboo	2"	40'-50'	Clump	15	Prolific producer of erect culms
B. ventricosa	Buddha's Belly Bamboo	2"	20'-30'	Clump	20	Very tall unless restricted in a pot, causing swelling culms
B. vulgaris vittata	none	3"-4"	30'-40'	Clump	27	Colorful yellow culms with bold green stripes
Chimonbambusa marmorea	none	.5"	6'	Running	15	Arching stems are dark green almost purple
Oatea acuminata axtectorum	Mexican Weeping Bamboo	1"-1.5"	15'-20'	Clump	20	Graceful, thin lacy foliage on tall arching culms
Phyllostachys aurea	Golden Bamboo	1.5"-2"	15'-20'	Running	0	Erect upright culms, golden green, excellent for containers
P. a. albo variegata	Variegated Golden Bamboo	1.5"-2"	15'-20'	Running	0	Erect upright culms, with white stripes on leaves, excellent for containers
P. bambusoides castillon	Castillon Bamboo	2"	25'-30'	Running	5	Golden yellow culms with grooves, unusual
P. meyerii	Old Golden Bamboo	1.5"-2"	20'-30'	Running	-4	Less crowded basal joints than Golden Bamboo
P. nigra	Black Bamboo	1"-1.5"	10'-15'	Running	0	New culms are green turning jet black as they age
P. vivax	none	3"-5"	50'-60'	Running	5	Long bright green foliage, shiny, bright green culms
Shibatea kumasasa	none	.25"	5'-7'	Running	10	Best in part shade, acid soil reduces burn on leaves
Sasa varieties	none	.25"	8'-15'	Running	0	Short spreading plants for ground cover or containers. Some have variegated leaves