

BRANCHING OUT

A California Native Plant Introduction Program



Leymus condensatus 'Canyon Prince'
Canyon Prince Giant Rye



The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's Plant Introduction Program "Branching Out" is dedicated to increasing awareness, appreciation, and availability of outstanding California native plants for landscapes and gardens.

BOTANICAL NAME _____ *Leymus condensatus*

CULTIVAR NAME _____ 'Canyon Prince'

COMMON NAME _____ Canyon Prince Giant Rye

FAMILY NAME _____ Poaceae

ORIGIN _____ A selection made by Horticulturist Dara Emery from specimens collected by Ralph Philbrick on Prince Island, a small island off of San Miguel Island in the Santa Barbara Channel.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION _____ Medium sized evergreen grass with atypical blue-gray foliage. Becoming 2-3 ft tall by 3-4 ft wide or more if rhizomes allowed to spread. The flower stalks rise 1-2 ft above the foliage and are topped with tight, congested clusters of flowers in summer.

WATER REQUIREMENTS _____ Wide adaptability makes it suitable for very dry or regularly watered sites.

SOIL REQUIREMENTS _____ Wide soil tolerance.

EXPOSURE REQUIREMENTS _____ Best in sunny locations. Although tolerant of shade, it becomes leggy.

PESTS AND DISEASES _____ No known problems.

HARDINESS _____ Zones 7, 8, 12, 14-24. Hardy to at least 15 F in California.

LANDSCAPE VALUE _____ This beautiful drought-resistant grass is more striking and much less invasive than the European dune grass (*Elymus arenarius*). 'Canyon Prince' makes a terrific accent plant or backdrop in a perennial border. Should be cut back to the ground every 2-3 years.

PROPAGATION _____ By division.

SALES POTENTIAL _____ One of the most popular and adaptable of California's native grasses. Bold texture and blue foliage effective in many situations, from meadows to tropical gardens.

NURSERY AVAILABILITY _____ El Nativo Growers (<http://www.elnativogrowers.com/>)
 Magic Growers
 Matilija Nursery (<http://www.matilijanursery.com/>)
 Native Sons Nursery (<http://nativeson.com/home2.html>)
 San Marcos Growers (<http://www.smgrowers.com/>)
 Suncrest Nurseries (<http://www.suncrestnurseries.com/>)
 Tree of Life Nursery (<http://www.treeoflifenuresery.com/>)

For more information about this program, contact the Garden at 805-682-4726, ext. 114.
 Or, write to the Plant Introduction Program at 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105.



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