



**Black Bamboo**  
*Phyllostachys nigra*

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 6b

**Description:**

This popular variety is striking, with its tall, jet black culms and light, airy green foliage; will grow quite tall in ideal conditions; very impressive along borders or as a focal point, but must be controlled

**Ornamental Features**

Black Bamboo's pointy leaves remain light green in color throughout the year. Neither the flowers nor the fruit are ornamentally significant. The black stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

**Landscape Attributes**

Black Bamboo is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with a rigidly upright and towering form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season.

Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading

Black Bamboo is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use



*Black Bamboo bark*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Black Bamboo*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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## **Planting & Growing**

Black Bamboo will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 6 feet from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.