

# ALTERNATIVE TURF: BLUE GRAMA

---

Blue grama is one of the best native grass options for low-maintenance areas. Consider these tips when evaluating if blue grama is right for you:

## BENEFITS

- **Well-adapted to Colorado Springs.** Once established it will thrive in hot, dry, sunny conditions on a variety of soil types.
- **Low-maintenance.** Blue grama works well for large, sloped or low-use areas. Fertilize once in June and water once per week.
- **Great drought tolerance.** Goes dormant with dry conditions and returns as moistures does.
- **Taller than buffalograss** and grows attractive seedheads in fall. Works well with naturalistic and informal landscape designs.

## WATER SAVINGS

- Saves a great deal of water, requiring only one-third the water of a traditional lawn.
- Water once per week May to early October. Winter watering is not required.
- Newly established grass requires regular watering for several weeks after planting while it forms new roots.

## SEED INSTALLATION

- Review installation guidance before planting to ensure success and reduce weed problems.

Visit [csu.org](https://www.csu.org) for water-wise information, irrigation rebates and instructional videos.



## TIPS FOR GRASS SELECTION

---

### DON'T use blue grama if:

- You want a deep green lawn with a traditional look. Blue grama is lighter green and has a naturalistic appearance.
- Your yard doesn't get at least six hours of full sun.
- Your yard has a higher elevation than 7,500 feet.
- Your yard gets a lot of foot traffic.



Colorado Springs Utilities  
*It's how we're all connected*