

## The Taxonomy of Grasses and Related Species



Ornamental grasses are frequently described as either a true grass or a grass like plant. While these general descriptions work well in horticultural applications, it leaves some guesswork for those interested in the taxonomy of these plants. The table below is meant to shed some light on this topic. Please note however, that the information provided pertains only to the plants grown at El Nativo Growers, Inc., and is not meant to serve as an exhaustive guide. In addition, please note that you will find true grasses classified as "grass" in our availability list.

<b>FAMILY</b>	<b>FAMILY COMMON NAME</b>	<b>SELECTED GENERA</b>	<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>
Araceae	Arum or Philodendron Family	Acorus	
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family	Carex, Cyperus, Eleocharis, Schoenoplectus	Found in most parts of the world; wet habitats are typical
Juncaceae	Rush Family	Juncus, Luzula, Scirpus	Typically found in wet habitats
Poaceae (Gramineae)	Grass Family	Calamagrostis, Chasmanthium, Helictotrichon, Imperata, Leymus, Miscanthus, Panicum, Pennisetum, Phalaris, Poa, etc.	True grass family; one of the largest plant families; world wide distribution
Restionaceae	Restio Family	Chondropetalum, Elegia, Thamnochortus	Less known; members of this family are only found in the Southern hemisphere
Typhaceae	Cat-tail Family	Typha	Small family that only includes the genus typha; commoly found in fresh-water marsh environments

