



MISCANTHUS SINENSIS ANDERSSON

Fam. Poaceae

DESCRIPTION

Coarse and vigorous plant with slow expansion and a very long lifespan that generally exceeds 20 years. In a short time, the plant tends to form dense bushes with an elegant and graceful habit.

HABITAT

Native to Asia.

DISTRIBUTION

Cultivated throughout Europe for the production of vegetable biomass, the eulalia is also widely used as an ornamental plant in various types of gardens. In Italy, it is grown mainly as an ornamental for its beautiful foliage and its showy and persistent inflorescences.

FLOWERS

Showy and decorative panicle-like inflorescences appearing on top of slender cylindrical green stems that far exceed the leaves in length. Each ear is made up of tiny white-silvery or yellow-orange flowers which persist on the plant for months. They bloom in different periods depending on the variety; in general, flowering occurs in summer and autumn.

LEAVES

Long curved linear green leaves with an evident central white vein and a leaf surface with yellow or white variegations depending on the variety.

SEEDS

Light seeds dispersed by the wind even at a considerable distance from the place of origin.

INTERESTING FACTS

It is used to clean up the soil polluted by heavy metals and other harmful substances. Many hybrid varieties have been obtained from this gramineous plant which differ in the colour and shape of the leaves, the structure of the inflorescence and the size of the bush (diameter from 30 to 100 cm, height from 40 to 150 cm) and of the inflorescence (up to 2 m tall). In the gardens of Venaria Reale, you can find the following varieties:

- *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Silver-Feather' It produces large silver-pink plumes in late summer. These flowers bloom continuously throughout the season and rise well above the clump of foliage, making them visible from a distance. The green leaves have a white central rib.
- *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Little Kitten' Beautiful compact dwarf grass with narrow, arching leaves. The yellow plumes appear just above the foliage.

ROOTS

Sturdy rhizome well anchored to the ground.