



Weed of The Week

Amur Silver grass (*Miscanthus sacchariflorus*.)

Please do not plant this week's weed of the week in your landscape garden!!! Amur Silver grass is a popular ornamental landscape grass that homeowners eventually wish they have never planted due to its invasiveness. This plant is classified as a creeping perennial grass that is native to Eastern Asia but has become widespread throughout the majority of the eastern United States. Amur silver grass can become established in a variety of habitats including cropland, roadsides, gardens, stream banks, and waste areas. Plant heights can reach 8 ft tall, and the leaves can be as long as 3ft with a slight green hue and a white midrib. Amur Silver grass is most noted for its flashy silver seed head that is very soft and silver-white in color. This plant is reproduced by the seed and rhizome root system. The seeds of this plant are covered with furlike hairs that enable the seed to be distributed by the wind. Controlling Amur Silver grass is not for the faint of heart and usually takes multiple modes of treatments and several seasons to be successful. Steps of control include removing the plant and as much of the roots as possible, making sure to remove all the roots from the sight, and either composting or burning. Spraying young root shoots with a systemic herbicide like glyphosate multiple times in the growing season. Mowing can be successful but waiting until the bud stage of growth is critical for success.

