# Savannah Ruby Grass

***Melinis nerviglumis 'Savannah'***

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7b

Other Names: Zizka

**Description:**

A stunning cold tender perennial producing mauve-pink clusters of flowers, gracefully aching above narrow blue-green foliage; great for edging or mass planting; flowers fade slowly to pink, then white; an excellent filler for cut flower arrangements



*Savannah Ruby Grass in bloom*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Ornamental Features**

Savannah Ruby Grass features showy clusters of pink flowers with violet overtones at the ends of the stems from early to late summer. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive grassy leaves remain bluish-green in color throughout the season.



*Savannah Ruby Grass flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

**Landscape Attributes**

Savannah Ruby Grass is an herbaceous perennial grass with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Savannah Ruby Grass is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

**Bandera Location**
**8516 Bandera Road**
**San Antonio, TX 78250**
**(210) 680-2394**

**Thousand Oaks Location**
**2585 Thousand Oaks**
**San Antonio, TX 78232**
**(210) 494-6131**

## Planting & Growing



*Savannah Ruby Grass*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Savannah Ruby Grass will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Savannah Ruby Grass is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.