














CAREX COMPARISON CHART

Most sedges reside in the genus *Carex*—a group diverse in colors, textures, and cultural adaptations. From handsome sedges for containers to ground covers to workhorse sedges for naturalizing, they’ve grown consistently in popularity. There’s also a rising appreciation of North American *Carex* for green infrastructure projects and low-maintenance, wildlife-friendly plantings. To help choose from our growing palette of sedges, we’ve compiled a descriptive chart.

Carex	N. American Native	Max Height	Zones	Blade	Color	Characteristics/Habit	Exposure				Moisture			
							Shade	Part-shade	Part-sun	Sun	Dry	Average	Moist	Wet
<i>C. amphibola</i>	●	1.5'	3-9		Green	Bunching habit; widely adaptable	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. appalachica</i>	●	1'	3-8		Green	Similar to <i>C. pensylvanica</i> but has bunching habit	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. bicknellii</i>	●	3'	3-7		Green	Bunching habit; more tolerant of dry soils than other <i>Carex</i>	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. buchananii</i> 'Red Rooster'		2'	7-9		Copper-bronze	Bunching, upright habit with arching foliage	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. cherokeensis</i>	●	2'	6-9		Green	Bunching; spreads via short rhizomes; reseeds heavily; mostly evergreen	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. comosa</i>	●	4'	4-9		Green	Bunching, with short rhizomes; showy seed heads similar to <i>C. lurida</i> , but green	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. crinita</i>	●	4'	3-8		Blue-green	Bunching habit; reseeds slowly to form colonies; hanging seed heads	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. divulsa</i>		1.5'	5-9		Green	Bunching habit; performs well under shade trees; widely adaptable	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. dolichostachya</i> 'Kaga Nishiki'		1'	5-9		Green w/gold margins	Bunching habit; needs moist soil in sun	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. eburnea</i>	●	1'	2-8		Green	Slowly rhizomatous, will reseed lightly; takes drier conditions with shade	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>C. elata</i> 'Aurea'		2.5'	5-8		Green-gold variegated	Bunching habit; thrives in up to 3" of water	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Blade Width  Fine  Medium  Broad

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<i>C. flacca</i>		10"	4-8		Blue gray	Somewhat bunching; forms mat-like colonies via rhizomes									
<i>C. flacca</i> 'Blue Zinger'		10"	4-8		Blue-green	Bunching; forms colonies via rhizomes; more upright than species									
<i>C. frankii</i>	●	2'	5-8		Green	Bunching, rhizomatous spreader; spiky seed heads; food for waterfowl									
<i>C. grayi</i>	●	3'	3-9		Green	Bunching; spreads slowly via rhizomes and seed; very showy seed heads									
<i>C. laxiculmis</i> 'Hobb' Bunny Blue®	●	1'	5-9		Blue-green	Bunching habit; spreads slowly via rhizomes and seed									
<i>C. lurida</i>	●	3'	3-8		Green	Bunching habit; spiky seed heads similar to <i>C. comosa</i> , but yellow									
<i>C. morrowii</i> 'Ice Dance'		1'	5-8		Green w/cream margins	Spreads vigorously via rhizomes; takes more sun in cooler climates									
<i>C. muskingumensis</i>	●	3'	4-8		Green	Palm-like foliage; spreads via rhizomes and seed; can take sun with moist soil									
<i>C. oshimensis</i> EverColor® Everest ('Carfit01')		1'	6-8		Green w/white margins	Bunching habit with full, arching foliage; a good grower									
<i>C. oshimensis</i> EverColor® 'Everillo'		1'	6-8		Yellow	Bunching habit with full, arching foliage; very showy and a good grower									
<i>C. oshimensis</i> EverColor® 'Everlime'		1'	6-8		Green w/lime margins	Bunching habit with full, arching foliage; a good grower; vivid tone-on-tone effect									
<i>C. oshimensis</i> EverColor® 'Eversheen'		1'	6-8		Lime yellow w/green margins	Neat flowing habit with full, arching foliage; a good grower									
<i>C. oshimensis</i> 'Evergold'		1'	6-8		Yellow w/green margins	Bunching habit with full, arching foliage; excellent low ground cover									

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<i>C. pensylvanica</i>	●	1'	4-8		Green	Forms mat-like colonies; excellent ground cover; takes some sun with moist soil								
<i>C. plantaginea</i>	●	10"	3-8		Green	Very attractive, dimpled foliage; can reseed into colonies								
<i>C. rosea</i>	●	14"	3-8		Green	Bunching habit, short rhizomes; similar appearance to <i>C. appalachica</i>								
<i>C. scaposa</i>		1'	7-9		Green	Bunching habit w/short rhizomes; showy, pink blooms spring & fall								
<i>C. 'Silver Sceptre'</i>		1'	5-9		Green w/white-margins	Spreads slowly via rhizomes; good for shade								
<i>C. squarrosa</i>	●	3'	4-8		Green	Bunching habit; plump, spiky seed heads; tolerates wet shade								
<i>C. stricta</i>	●	3'	4-8		Green	Large tussocks on wet sites, more rhizomatous when drier; tolerates seasonal flooding								
<i>C. testacea 'Prairie Fire'</i>		1.5'	5-9		Green-bronze w/orange tips	Upright habit with arching foliage								
<i>C. texensis</i>	●	1'	5-9		Green	Bunching habit, no conspicuous rhizomes; takes sun with more moisture								
<i>C. vulpinoidea</i>	●	3'	3-8		Green	Bunching; forms colonies via rhizomes; competitive, widespread species								

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