

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Black Dragon bamboo: darkening culms among fine green foliage

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AI-designed garden scene after original. Two open young plants corresponding to the set. Size reference: 2 plants, each 14 cm pot, about 35 cm total height including pot. Not a to-scale product photo; surroundings and accessories not included.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

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PLANT PORTRAIT

Fargesia 'Black Dragon'

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Botanical name	Fargesia 'Black Dragon'
Delivery size	2 plants · each 14 cm pot · about 35 cm total height including pot
Habit	Perennial clump-forming bamboo with narrow green leaves; evergreen in mild climate, partly leaf-shedding under stronger winter stress
Expected height	About 2–3 m as developed-plant guidance; position and container affect height and width
Flowering	Rare and irregular; no reliable annual flowering date
Flower colour	No reliably plannable annual flower colour; ornament lies in green foliage and darker culms
Planting	Prefer spring in frost-free workable soil, with time to establish before winter
Spacing	About 1–1.5 m guidance from later clump width; allow broadening and care access

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Culms	View young green and older darker culms together.	Darker colour develops with age.
Space	Allow clump broadening and about 1–1.5 m garden spacing.	Clump-forming does not mean permanently unchanged width.
Light	Choose sheltered partial shade to shade.	Dry wind and hot walls stress fine leaves.
Soil	Provide humus-rich fresh well-drained soil.	Water reserves and air in the rootball need to fit together.
Planting	Prefer spring, set lightly covered and water thoroughly.	The clump gains establishment time before winter.
Water	Slowly water the whole rootball and check drainage.	Small delivery pots dry faster than established clumps.
Feeding	During growth according to soil, pot and label.	Needs depend on cultivation and reserves.
Pruning	Remove old or dead culms at ground level.	New culms renew the clump; cut tips do not lengthen.
Winter	Shelter containers and check moisture on frost-free days.	Wind and dryness may stress winter foliage and roots.

Knowledge that grows

The black tone comes with culm age

Black Dragon carries narrow lance-shaped green leaves on fine upright culms. Young culms may look green before becoming markedly darker as they mature. Pale sheaths add contrast. Fargesia Black Dragon names a horticultural selection with this special culm character. Botanically bamboo belongs to the grasses. Its woody structure nevertheless creates a clear spatial accent built from many individual culms.

Two little clumps are not a screen yet

The specific offer contains two plants, each in a 14 cm pot and about 35 cm total height including container. The original shows open young plants with narrow leaves. A dark culm detail explains the later effect but does not promise wholly black young deliveries. Developed plants may reach about 2–3 m. Unpack each set member by its pot and release transport material without pulling culms. The two may take separate garden positions. Both are specimens of the same named selection.

Clump-forming still needs room

New culms arise near the existing rootstock in this selection. It forms no typical long wandering runners, but the whole clump broadens over years. About 1–1.5 m spacing is garden guidance from later width; plan desired row density and watering access together. A tight immediately dense image brings more competition later. Permanent containers need much more root room than a 14 cm delivery pot. Choose a stable freely draining container and allow repotting or later division space.

Partial shade keeps the fine crown steadier

A sheltered partial-shade to shade outdoor position suits the described selection. Hot reflecting walls and dry wind increase water loss from fine leaves. A terrace beneath light tree cover needs different care from a windy south balcony. Humus-rich fresh well-drained soil holds reserves without permanent waterlogging. Spring allows new roots before winter. Set the rootball lightly covered, about 2–3 cm below the previous surface, and water in carefully. Solve compact wet soil as a site problem first.

Rolled leaves are an observation

During establishment check little original rootballs especially. In dry summer phases even older garden clumps need water; containers dry faster. Water slowly and thoroughly so it reaches the whole root space and surplus drains. Rolled leaves may occur with heat, dryness or frost. If soil already feels wet, more water is no automatic answer. During growth, limited pot volume or poor soil may justify suitable feed by label. Healthy fallen leaves may stay as loose cover without blocking drainage.

Selectively remove old culms

New culms renew the clump. Remove dead or very old ones at ground level when their condition is clear. A topped culm does not lengthen its cut tip like a tree shoot, so frequent strict hedge clipping is not the only care approach. To see darker culm sections, gently remove some lower foliage without unnecessarily stripping young plants. Bamboo flowering follows no usual annual calendar. If a clump flowers unusually and weakens, assess care and development rather than diagnosing a particular disease from missing green vigour.

Winter provision remains part of the plan

In mild climate the selection holds foliage; under stronger winter stress some may fall. Assess leaf loss or brown tips with frost, wind and rootball moisture first. Shelter containers, insulate the root zone in severe cold and keep drainage and air exchange free. Check soil and water if needed on frost-free days, especially under eaves. A heated living room does not suit garden bamboo. Wait for recognisable living shoots after winter before removing every brown-looking culm. Darker culm colour requires patience, not extra colour fertiliser.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Unchanged clean detail of developed darker culms from original gallery; no promise of completely black young deliveries. 2 plants, each 14 cm pot, about 35 cm total height including pot.



AI-designed detail after original. Example of later darker culms, no promise of completely black young deliveries. Surroundings not included.

Good to know

Why are young culms still green?

Dark colour develops with age. A young delivery clump need not have completely black culms.

What gives Black Dragon its special appeal?

Narrow green leaves accompany culms darkening with age. The contrast develops with the clump; young plants may initially show green culms.

Does it need room although it does not run far?

Yes. It broadens near the existing rootstock. Allow later width and care access.

Does 35 cm include the container?

Yes. Total delivery height includes the 14 cm pot. Developed plants may reach about 2–3 m.

Should rolled leaves prompt immediate water?

Check soil first. Heat, dryness and frost may need different responses; a wet rootball does not automatically need more water.

Is a living room a winter home?

A heated living room is unsuitable for this garden bamboo. Sheltered outdoors with root protection and frost-free moisture checks suits the seasons.

The matching offer

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English portrait



Shop offer