



## Wilson's Nursery



**Get your orders in and experience the Wilson's way! We've got a great team here working hard to get you the best quality plant material accompanied by incredible service.**

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**Call us for Evergreen Availability!**

We are back in the fields digging evergreens to order.  
Colorado, Black Hills, Serbian, and more!!



## Connie's Corner

### *Blue-er Than Blue*

*by Connie Kratzke*

*Once upon a time, there was a little blue grass named Elijah. People were very attracted to him! Great color, form and texture lured in countless, innocent homeowners. What many folks didn't know resulted in numerous casualties. Elijah fell out of popularity for a little while because folks didn't understand him. All he wanted was to be left the heck alone!*

*Regular water during initial establishment is always appreciated, but Fescues are ULTRA low maintenance once they hit their stride. When allowed to be low key, they really keep their cool. Blue Fescues are great plants for hot, dry areas with reliably good drainage. Not demanding of nutrients or sensitive to pH, these grasses adapt to all but heavy clay soils. Tolerant of salt and avoided by deer, these brutes can thrive where many plants can't. They benefit from the insulating and moderating effects of mulch, as long as the soil beneath doesn't stay soggy. Growing Fescues in a nursery setting is really easy, because they flourish in soil-less, peat/bark mixes. Add time-release fertilizer, regular irrigation and a cozy pot and that's all there is to it! Use the little blue urchins in similar landscape situations and they will do exactly what you need them to. Full sun does seem to work best in our part of the country. I have heard it*

suggested that they tolerate partial shade, but I have never seen that turn out terribly well. Six hours plus is best.

'Elijah' is a good guy and his reputation precedes him. That said, some newer blues are notably more intense. 'Beyond Blue' is exactly that. Excellent color retention during hot periods is its claim to fame. Slightly taller and up to twice as wide as little 'Elijah', 'Beyond Blue' makes a bit more of an impact. 'Cool As Ice' is another one that keeps its cool, blue hues during intense periods of heat. In fact, its color seems to peak with the rising mercury! Closer in size to 'Elijah Blue', it can be easily swapped. The cooling illusions all of these spiky blue mounds induce cannot be underestimated. Still, blue isn't always how we're feeling. 'Eiler's Beauty' is much greener than the other Fescues I've mentioned, but is similar in all other ways. Offering finer texture than Prairie Dropseed or Tufted Hair Grass, it can hold its own in the landscape.

All of these little beauties look great in mass plantings. Modern, formal designs benefit from their tidy shapes. Random, meadow scapes are enhanced by their strong lines and bold shades. Stick these Blue Fescues in your toolbox for the scenarios they thrive in. Need something similar for a moist or slightly shady environment? Check out Carex 'Blue Zinger'!



Top to bottom: Cool as Ice, Eiler's Beauty, and Elijah Blue (front).



Beyond Blue against 'Tara' Prairie Dropseed background.



Carex flacca Blue Zinger.

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## **Green Tag Summer Sale!** **Up to 50% off Selected items!**

B&B Trees - Grade 1 & Park-Grade Available  
Container Evergreen and Shade Trees  
Container Fruit Trees  
Shrubs  
Perennials

Check out our Sale List  
here!

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## Follow us on Social Media:

Please take a look at our handcrafted social media pages! It's a mini-tour of what we have going on around here. Once you've had a look, please give me a call and we can take a little walk around the farm!



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**Summer Hours of Operation**  
Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm  
**Open House (save the date!)**  
September 28th

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