



## Phormium

Native to New Zealand, and better known as New Zealand flax, Phormiums bring a touch of the exotic to any garden. Their sword-like, evergreen leaves can be used to add height, and form a dramatic backdrop for flowering bedding plants. Planted en masse, they make quite a statement as the focal point. Phormiums look particularly good in stylish glazed pots, mixed with other exotics, to bring a Mediterranean style garden to your home.

Phormiums grow best in areas of rich, moist soil, or in containers, in full sun to partial shade. Developing a deep root system will help when temperatures dip below 25°F. Phormiums do not normally suffer any diseases or pests. Heights range from 18" to 5'+, with grass-like leaves that are 1/2" to 3" wide. Foliage comes in an array of colors to compliment any garden. Once established, most Phormiums are well adapted for low to moderate water situations, and tolerate sea shore breezes as well. Deer and rabbits are not fond of their fibrous leaves.



*'Sundowner'*



*'Apricot Queen'*



*'Wings of Gold'*

*background - 'Jester'*

**Phormium 'Wings of Gold'** ■ Evergreen foliage is 1-2" wide and slightly arching. Olive green foliage with cream-yellow margins that have a faint red edge. Best used as small to medium scale focal or specimen plant. USDA hardiness 8. 2-3'H x 2-3'W at ten years.

**Phormium 'Jester'** ■ Thought to be a sport of Phormium Yellow Wave. Upright habit with 2' to 3' long, pinkish leaves, with an orange midrib, and green bands near the margins. Foliage is 3/4" to 1" wide. Best used as a small scale focal or specimen plant. USDA hardiness 8. 18-24"H x 18-24"W at ten years.

**Phormium 'Jack Spratt'** ■ Grass-like, upright habit, with twisting, 1/2" wide, reddish brown leaves. Best used planted en masse as a groundcover, or as focal point in small scale landscape or in container plantings. USDA hardiness 8. 18-24"H x 18-24"W at ten years.

**Phormium 'Apricot Queen'** ■ Upright, grass-like habit, with 2-3" wide evergreen leaves that are upright, to slightly arching and twisted. Foliage is soft pastel yellow edged in green, with a tinge of apricot on the edges. Best used as a focal point in the garden or in containers. USDA hardiness 8. 4'H x 4'W at ten years.

**Phormium 'Sundowner'** ■ Very upright and grass-like, with 2.5"-3" leaves. Bronzy-green with rose-pink margins, overlaid with copper red markings. Older leaves turn cream and green. Best used as large scale focal or specimen plant. USDA hardiness 8. 5'+H x 5'+W at ten years.

**Phormium 'Shiraz'** ■ Vigorous, upright, grass-like habit, with 1-2" wide, evergreen, burgundy leaves. Distinctively handsome! Best used as a focal plant in small scale landscapes or containers, or planted en masse in larger scale landscapes. USDA hardiness 8. 2-3'H x 2-3'W at ten years.

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