

Botanical Name: Phormium tenax 'Bronze'

Common Name: New Zealand flax

Type of Plant: monocot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape clumping habit -- upright and slightly arching broad,  
sword-like bronzy purple leaves; becomes large and spreading with age

Height 5-6' Spread 2/3 - equal Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoor full/partial sun

Soil prefers moist loam -- tolerates most

Hardiness some frost--does well in hot areas

Morphology:

Leaves stiff, sword-like, 4-10' long, 3-5" wide, bronze color,  
somewhat keeled in cross-section

Flowers reddish/brown, 1-2' raceme above foliage; plant must be  
well established before it will bloom

Fruit capsule, 1" long

Propagation: seed, division of clump

Usage: dramatic accent for form and foliage color; used in tropical  
or subtropical landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred - tolerates occasional watering

Fertilizing as needed

Pruning remove dead leaves/flower stalks, thin out or divide

Pests/Diseases relatively free--may develop tip burn in hot, dry areas

Special Conditions dwarf varieties available

Origin: New Zealand Family: Agavaceae