

Pest Management is not an issue in North America. Gophers, moles, voles & cattle can eat it. Aphids and spider mites can be managed by thinning bamboo for air movement.

Irrigate in dry spells, even after first season.

Winter Care

Heavily mulch in fall before frost, 4-6" with leaves, straw, pine needles, bark mulch, etc. Piled up snow protects bamboo.

Suggest wrapping or tarping *Fargesia* genus each fall.

Although most are evergreen, in cold climates bamboo will shed leaves and canes during the winter and go dormant. In extreme cold, they may grow as perennials.

For More Information

Whittaker, Paul. *Hardy Bamboos: Taming the Dragon*. Portland Cambridge: Timber Press, Inc., 2005. Print.

Nursery and Website: Bamboo Garden, North Plains, Oregon - www.bamboogarden.com

American Bamboo Society Website - <http://www.bamboo.org>

**For more information
visit the Master Gardener
Diagnostic Clinic
May through September
Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

WSU Extension Office
901 E 7th Avenue, Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: (509) 962-7507
<http://www.kittitas.wsu.edu>
www.facebook.com/mgofkittitas



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Cold Hardy Bamboo for Kittitas County



Two Recommended Cold-Hardy Genera

Clumping - *Fargesia* (far-jeez'-ee-ah)



- Many species within this genus, **Nitida** species is very hardy.
- Spread 4-6 inches per year, max 8-16 feet tall.
- Requires afternoon shade.
- Lovely ornamental and can add privacy.

Running - *Phyllostachys* (fill-o-STACK-iss)

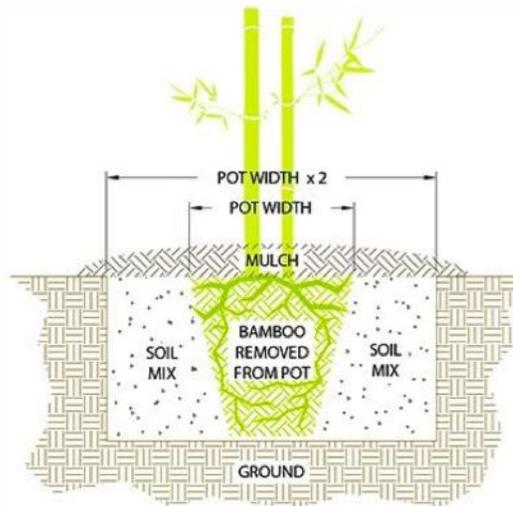


- Hardy, drought and cold tolerant, try **Bissetti** or **Aureocaulis**.
- Ideal for privacy screens. Known to spread 3-5 feet per year, up to 15 feet tall - in milder climates.
- Beautiful colorful culm selections.

Planting Bamboo and First Season Care

When: Plant in the spring or early fall, avoid during times of active growth or 'shooting'.

Where: Avoid northern wind exposure and allow space for spread and maturity. In wildfire risky areas, plant OUTSIDE defensible space. Avoid boggy or extremely dry soil conditions. Tolerates rocky soil as long as water is available.



How: Dig hole twice as wide as the root ball with depth similar to rootball. Fill with compost mixed with drainage material. Top of root ball even with top of ground. Mulch over top and water deeply at initial setting. Water twice weekly first growing season or more.

***If space is an issue and you are planting running bamboo, plant in a trench lined

Health and Maintenance

Fertilization: Not mandatory, 20N 5P 5K - anything suited to grass. Leave the fallen leaves and sheaths around plant as a natural and sustaining mulch, putting recycled nitrogen and silica into soil.

Pruning: Topped culms never will get taller but new ones will. Trimming lower branches enhances culm visibility. Branches and leaves grow back on existing culms. In spring, remove dead and weak canes by cutting to the ground. In addition to the spring pruning, prune again in late summer or early fall to minimize spreading.

Containment is less an issue with 'running' bamboo in Kittitas County because of the shorter growing season and cold winter. Contain by cutting *rhizomes* with a bamboo shovel or similar when they appear in growing season - or plant the bamboo in a trench with a barrier to limit its spread.

