

# HARDY BAMBOO

Hardy Bamboo is increasing in popularity in the United States due to its easy-to-maintain, fast growth habit and its natural resistance to pests and disease. There are two types of bamboo: Running Bamboo and Clumping Bamboo.

**Running Bamboo.** Running Bamboo spreads by sending out rhizomes into the ground. MOST OF THE RUNNING BAMBOOS ARE EXTREMELY INVASIVE! Running Bamboo can be controlled with a physical barrier, however, rhizomes can spread past the barrier if it is not substantial enough. Many homeowners have had great success with running bamboos in raised beds or very large containers.

**Clumping Bamboo.** Clumping Bamboo spreads more slowly over time, much like ornamental grasses. Protect your bamboo over winter by applying a 4-6" layer of mulch around the plants. In warmer winters the culm (stalks) will lose color but remain standing. In harsher winters, the bamboo will die back and send new shoots up in late spring.

