

Front Lines

8/31/2026

Cool New Plant Alert

Jennifer Polanz



There were so many cool plants at Cultivate'26 this year in Columbus that I think this one got a little buried among the others. I wanted to call out *Ophiopogon planiscapus* Inky Whiskers, introduced by Iseli Nursery, in the New Varieties display. Inky Whiskers is a dwarf black mondo grass that, according to the folks at Iseli Nursery, reaches half the size of regular black mondo grass. It's a great high-contrast plant with slender leaf blades that can serve as an accent in the ground or in a mixed container. It's gets to a mini size of 4 in. x 4 in. and is hardy to Zone 6. Its great for full sun to partial shade. This one is exclusive to Iseli Nursery, so visit [iselinursery.com](https://www.iselinursery.com) or reach out to sales@iselinursery.com. **GP**