

Hymenachne amplexicaulis

WEST INDIAN MARSH GRASS

Poaceae

Common Synonyms: *Hymenachne acutigluma*

FLEPPC Category: 1

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

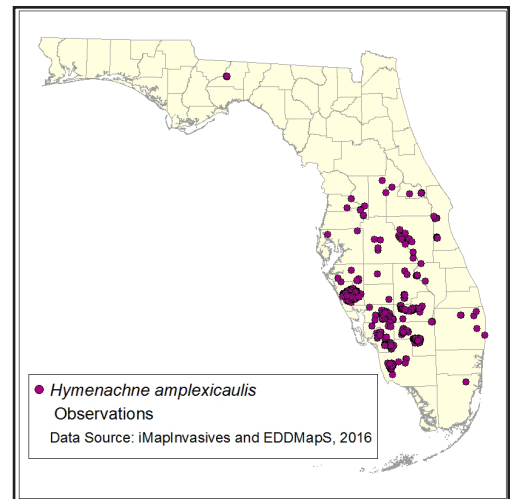
IFAS Assessment

North	INVASIVE
Central	INVASIVE
South	INVASIVE

USDA Hardiness Zone: 8b-10b

Growth Habit: Aquatic, emergent
graminoid

Origin: Central America, Mexico,
South America



Hymenachne amplexicaulis
photo by William Overholt



<http://florida.plantatlas.usf.edu/Photo.aspx?id=12631>

Description: Robust wetland grass ascending to 1 m tall, rooting at the lower nodes. Stems are floating, creeping or ascending. Stems are filled with a white pith (not hollow), unlike most other grasses. Leaf blades are flat, to 35 cm long, cordate at the base and often clasping the stem. Inflorescence a dense terminal panicle.

Note: Looks similar to and occurs with the native maiden-cane (*Panicum hemitomon*). Distinguished by its longer ligule (>1 mm), white pith, and more clasping leaf base.

Habitat: Invades marshes, river edges and wet pastures

Florida Introduction Date: Earliest Florida herbarium specimen from 1957

Control Methods: Mechanical: Manipulation of water levels (drying, drowning plants)..

Chemical: Foliar (96 fl oz/ac/year aquatic imazapyr). Imazapyr provides best control 9-12 months after treatment under dry and flooded conditions. However, repeat treatments when dry should include glyphosate (2% glyphosate+ 0.5% imazapyr). [IFAS].

Biological: *Ischnodemus variegatus* (Myakka bug), was observed feeding on West Indian marsh grass. A non-native Blissid true bug (Insecta: Hemiptera) greatly prefers this host plant relative to a few other native plants. [IFAS, <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in491>]

Useful Resources:

[http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/files/caip/SP257/Hymenachne_amplexicaulis\(SP257-034\).pdf](http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/files/caip/SP257/Hymenachne_amplexicaulis(SP257-034).pdf)

IFAS. 2011. Integrated Management of Nonnative Plants in Natural Areas of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/files/WG/WG20900.pdf> Accessed June 13 2017.

Comments: