**Urochloa maxima**  
**GUINEA GRASS**  
**Poaceae**

Common Synonyms: *Panicum maximum*

**Florida Introduction Date:** Earliest Florida specimen available vouchered in 1933

**Control Methods:** Chemical: 3-5% Glyphosate foliar, Glyphosate 2% plus Imazapyr 0.5%, or Imazapyr 1-2% yield similar results; retreat at 2-4, 3-5, 4-6 months respectively (IFAS).

**Useful Resources:**

**Comments:** Fast growing. Widely established except in the panhandle.

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**FLEPPC Category:** 2  
**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No  
**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 8a-11  
**Growth Habit:** Herb  
**Origin:** Africa

**Observations**

**North**: CAUTION  
**Central**: CAUTION  
**South**: INVASIVE

**Description:** Robust, densely-tufted perennial grass to 3~m tall. Rhizome may bear hairy reduced-leaf remnants. Stem stout, erect, glabrous to hairy, nodes often densely hairy. Leaf sheath glabrous to stiff-hairy, often with dense patches of hair at junction with leaf blade. Ligule membranous, to 6~mm long. Leaf blade flat, linear, to 90~cm long and 3.5~cm wide, glabrous to softly or coarsely hairy on upper surface, margin may be rough to the touch. Inflorescence a many-branched, erect or slightly nodding panicle, to 60~cm tall and 20~cm wide, with 3-7 whorled lower branchlets. Spikelets clustered on branchlets, short stalked, to 4~mm long, green to purplish, oblong, blunt-tipped or slightly pointed, glabrous or slightly hairy, first glume 1/3 length of spikelet, second glume equal length to spikelet; upper floret fertile, developing a dull, white seed.

**Habitat:** Mesic flatwoods, coastal strand, maritime hammock, xeric hammock, sandhill, scrub, pine rockland.

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*Pete Diamond*