

U.S. National Early Detection and Rapid Response System for Invasive Plants

EDRR Fact Sheet

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Common Name: Deeprooted Sedge

Scientific Name: *Cyperus entrerianus* Boeckeler

Synonyms: *Cyperus luzulae* auct. non (L.) Rottb. ex Retz., *Scirpus luzulae* auct. non L.

Family: Cyperaceae

Description: A robust grass-like plant that grows up to 40" tall. **Rhizomes** deeply set, thick, dark purple to black leaf bases. **Leaves** basal, glossy, and flat or V-shaped. **Leaf bases** dark purple to black. **Inflorescence** terminal, with 5-11 elongate rays, ending in densely clustered spikelets.

Habitat: A weed of wet, disturbed areas such as highway ditches and field margins.

Native Range: South America.

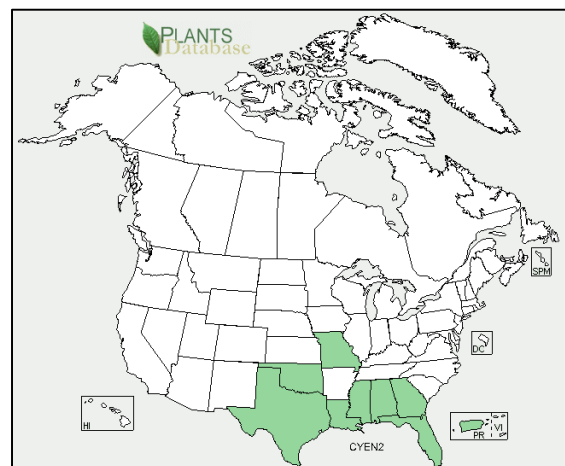
Pathways of Introduction and Spread:

Accidentally introduced into the United States via rice culture. It was first reported about 20 miles north of Brownsville (Cameron County), Texas, in 1941. It is now being spread across the southern U.S. by construction and agricultural activities, and roadside mowing.



U.S. and Canada Distribution:

Ecological and Economic Impacts: Currently, Deeprooted sedge is beginning to displace native vegetation in undisturbed habitats. Unless it is controlled it will continue to spread, and will infest agricultural and forest production areas, wetlands, riparian zones, and urban areas. Studies show that large plants can produce a million viable seeds per year, and it can overwinter in much of the South.



Control Strategies: Tillage (even repeated disking) temporarily suppresses seed production of Deeprooted sedge, but regrowth is rapid following rainfall. Mowing prevents additional seeding, but opens areas for germination of new seedlings and spread of established plants from underground rhizomes.

Several herbicides have been found to be effective in controlling Deeprooted sedge. Effective herbicides include [glyphosate](#) (Roundup – 2 qt./acre), [hexazinone](#) (Velpar – 2 pts./acre), [MSMA](#) (2 lb./acre), [2,4-D + Dicamba](#) (Weedmaster – 2 pt./acre) and [picloram](#) (Grazon P + D; 2 qt./acre).



Image: Deep rooted sedge seedling.

Equipment sanitation is important in preventing the spread of Deeprooted sedge. Any vehicle, machine, or equipment that is used in an infested area should be cleaned before it is moved to another site to minimize the spread of seeds and rhizomes.

Regulatory Status: Deeprooted sedge is not currently regulated by any state or federal agencies within the United States.

Online Resources:

Deeprooted Sedge – An Overlooked Aggressive Weed in the Southeastern United States. Fact Sheet. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service et al.

URL: <http://www.invasive.org/eastern/other/ypentrflyer.pdf>

Deeprooted Sedge – Control and Suppression Fact Sheet – Charles Bryson – IL DNR.

URL: <http://dnr.state.il.us/Stewardship/cd/other/contol-deeprootedsedge.pdf>

Deeprooted Sedge Images - U-GA Bugwood Image Gallery.

URL: <http://www.invasive.org/species/subject.cfm?sub=10954>

Deeprooted Sedge Profile - USDA Plants Database.

URL: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=CYEN2>

Rosen, D., R. Carter, and C. Bryson. 2006. The spread of *Cyperus entrerianus* (Cyperaceae) in the southeastern United States and its invasive potential in bottomland hardwood forests. *Southeastern Naturalist* 5:333-344.

URL: <http://www.valdosta.edu/~rcarter/Rosen.Carter.Bryson.2006.pdf>