

*Imperata cylindrica*

cogon grass



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**Appearance:** Perennial grass growing in loose or compact tufts; grows from stout, extensively creeping, scaly rhizomes with sharp-pointed tips.

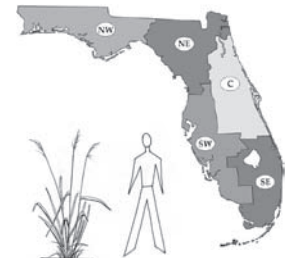
**Leaves:** Sheaths relatively short, glabrous or pubescent; ligule a membrane, 0.5–1 mm (0.2–0.4 in) long. Blades erect, narrow and pubescent at base; flat and glabrous above, to 1.2 m (4 ft) tall and to 2 cm (< 1 in) wide, with whitish midvein noticeably off-center; blade margins scabrous, blade tips sharp pointed.

**Flowers:** In a plume-like, silky panicle, to 21 cm (8 in) long and 3.5 cm (1.4 in) wide; several per branch, base circled by long hairs.

**Fruit:** 3.5–4.3 mm (0.14–0.17 in)

**Ecological threat:**

Considered one of the top ten worst weeds in the world. Has invaded dry to moist natural areas, including habitats of federally listed endangered and threatened native plant species. FLEPPC Category I



**Distribution:** NW, NE, C, SW, SE

**Field Notations**

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