

# Cenchrus purpurascens

## COMMON NAMES

Chinese pennisetum

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## GENUS

Cenchrus

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

Cenchrus purpurascens Thunb.

## SYNONYMS

Pennisetum alopecuroides (L.) Spreng.

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## YEAR NATURALISED

1940

## ORIGIN

Eastern Asia

## ETYMOLOGY

**cenchrus:** From the Greek cenchros which means millet

## NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

**This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord.** The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/pest-plant-accord/).

## NVS CODE

CENPUP

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cenchrus-purpurascens/>

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026



Cenchrus purpurascens. Photographer: Auckland Regional Council, Licence: Public domain.



Cenchrus purpurascens, flower spike with anthers. Photographer: Auckland Regional Council, Licence: Public domain.