

Setaria palmifolia

COMMON NAME

palm grass

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Setaria palmifolia (J. König) Stapf

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

SETPAL

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Disturbed and open forest, shrubland, herbfield, bare land,

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Dense, palm-like grass. **Root mass** dense with tough rhizomes. **Stems** rounded. **Leaves** 30–100 × 5–8 cm, plicate (palm frond-like), tapering to a point, harsh, hanging. **Seedheads** long, narrow, loose spikes, 20–30 cm long, with fuzzy foxtail-like tips; on long arching stems.

SIMILAR TAXA

This is the only grass with palm-like (plicate) leaves.

FLOWERING

December–March

FRUITING

December–March

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Rhizomes and root masses re-sprout. Can also spread via seed. Dumped garden waste, soil and water movement.

YEAR NATURALISED

1981

ORIGIN

India

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/setaria-palmifolia/>



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