

# Miscanthus nepalensis

## COMMON NAMES

Himalayan fairy grass

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Miscanthus nepalensis* (Trin.) Hack.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## NVS CODE

MISNEP

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial. Waste areas, spreading from roadsides.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tall tufted perennial grass to about 1 m tall. **Culm** 40–80 cm, purple-green to yellow-green with purplish nodes. **Leaf-sheath** often conspicuously purple, with scattered long silky hairs. **Leaf-blade** 20–60 cm × 4–10 mm, stiff with obvious pale green mid-rib, gradually tapering, margins rough to the touch. **Panicle** 10–20 cm, golden brown, drooping fan-shaped. **Seed** 1–1.5 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA

The drooping fan-shaped panicle is quite distinctive. *M. sinensis* is also cultivated and naturalised. *M. sinensis* has a creamy-brown inflorescence, is larger (to over 2 m) and a form with variegated foliage is widely grown.

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1946

## ORIGIN

Nepal/India

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

**This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC.** 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).



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**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/miscanthus-nepalensis/>

**PDF DATE**

17 September 2024