PLANT FACT SHEET

Urochloa deflexa (Schum.) H. Scholz

GENUS *Urochloa* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Animal fonio, False signal grass, Guinea millet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are cooked and eaten. The seeds can be made into flour and used for cakes.

DESCRIPTION

A wild millet grass. It is similar to Brachiaria ramosa. It grows each year from seed. It is a loosely tufted annual grass. It grows 15-70 cm high. The leaf blades are narrow and 4-25 cm long by 4-22 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the savannah in Africa. It is sown in the Futa Jalon Highlands in West Africa. It is rare in Swaziland. It is common at medium to low altitudes in Zimbabwe. In Zimbabwe it grows up to 1,290 m above sea level. It can grow in light shade. Plants grow on clayey soils. It is resistant to drought. It can grow in light shade.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants mature in 70-75 days.

NOTES

There are about 100 Brachiaria species.

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