PLANT FACT SHEET

Hemarthria altissima (Poir.) Stapf. & Hubbard

GENUS *Hemarthria* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Swamp couch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Rhizome, Root

The rhizome is eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A grass. It keeps growing from year to year. It is branched and forms dense tangled masses. It spreads by underground stems or rhizomes. It can grow 1.5 m tall. The flower spikes occur singly at the top of the stems. The spikelets are pressed close to the axis.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid places. In Swaziland it grows in the high veld only. It grows in wet places and along river banks. It can be in poorly drained and salty soils. It grows from 5-2,000 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. In Argentina it grows between sea level and 1,000 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are 12 Hemarthria species. They grow in tropical and subtropical places.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/6bd90c76-3fed-4096-a6ec-64af4a5025e5