PLANT FACT SHEET

Urochloa trichopus (Hack.) Dandy

GENUS *Urochloa* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Hairy gonya-grass, Bushveld signal grass, Gonya grass, Sabi grass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Grains, Cereal

The seeds are cooked and eaten as a meal.

DESCRIPTION

A grass. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 1 to 1.3 m high. It forms tufts. The leaves are broad and have a sharp point. The flowering shoots consist of 4 to 10 dense, one-sided spikes. These are grey and are near the tip of the stems. The spikelets are 5 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in wooded grassland and deciduous bushland. It cannot tolerate frost. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 400-1,200 mm. It grows in well drained soils. It can grow in salty and alkaline soils. It can re-grow after fire. It grows between sea level and 1,400 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

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