PLANT FACT SHEET

Echinochloa esculenta (A. Braun) H. Scholz

GENUS *Echinochloa* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Japanese barnyard millet, Japanese millet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are boiled with rice or used in porridge or rice cakes.

DESCRIPTION

An annual millet grass. It grows 1-1.5 m tall. It forms tussocks. The leaf sheaths are smooth. The leaf blades are 20-50 cm long by 1.2-2.5 cm wide. The edges are thickened and wavy. It is flat and tapers to a point. The inflorescence is an erect panicle 6-20 cm long. The seed heads are purplish.

This is probably the cultivated form of Sawa millet (Echinochloa colona).

HABITAT

It is cultivated in warm temperate areas of the world. It is grown as a summer growing annual. It needs a highly fertile soil. It can withstand some water-logging but is not resistant to drought. It is less drought tolerant than sorghum. It can grow in arid places. Tasmanian Herbarium.

NOTES

There are about 35 Echinochloa species. They grow in tropical to warm temperate regions.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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