PLANT FACT SHEET

Sporobolus africanus (Poir.) Robyns & Tournay

GENUS *Sporobolus* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Rat's tail grass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Spikelet, Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are crushed to a powder and used to make bread or injera.

DESCRIPTION

A grass which keeps growing from year to year. It is densely tufted and wiry. It grows 60-100 cm high. The leaf blade is 40 cm long by 1-4 mm wide. The flowering shoot is like a dense spike 10-25 cm long with very small spikelets. They are less than 2.5 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a arid subtropical plant. In Swaziland it grows in the high veld only. It grows on floodplains and swampy grasslands. It grows between 100-2,300 m altitude.

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