PLANT FACT SHEET

Cenchrus setigerus (Stend.) Vahl

GENUS *Cenchrus* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Birdwood grass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The seeds are eaten mixed with millet for bread.
The seed are also eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A wiry tussocky grass. It keeps growing from year to year. It has a short rhizome. It has a bulbous base. The stems can be 1.5 m high. The leaf sheaths are loose. The ligule is short and has a fringe of dense hairs. The leaf blade in long and narrow. It can be folded or flat. The flowering stalk is a dense cylinder shaped panicle. It is purple when mature. It is 5-9 cm long and has zigzag stems. The seeds can be light green are dark purple.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows on alluvial soils and gravels. It suits sandy and light textured soils. It responds quickly to light rains. It grows in tropical and temperate places. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 125-1,250 mm. It grows from sea level to 1,100 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 23 Cenchrus species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/cf6311aa-dfa2-4ff3-9bfb-bbef24b79b2a