PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Cyperus cyperoides* (Linn.) Kuntze

**GENUS** *Cyperus* **FAMILY** Cyperaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Tall sedge

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Root, Tubers, Seeds

The roots and seeds are made into flour.
The rhizomes are used for flavouring.
The swollen culm base is swollen.

## DESCRIPTION

A tall sedge. It keeps growing from year to year. It has a short woody underground stem or rhizome. This has brown fibres over it. The stalks are erect and 3 sided. These grow in clumps and have grass like leaves and solid stalks. It is slender and 75 cm high. The leaves are soft and light green. They are 4 mm wide and have a distinct midrib. They taper to a point. The flowering stem is 2 mm across and has a ring of bracts below the flowering section. The spikelets are spreading and light colour. The flowering heads are 3-8 cm wide.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in damp grassy places in West Africa. It grows in the tropics in Asia. It grows in wet areas. In Fiji it grows from sea level to 900 m altitude.

## NOTES

There are 550 Cyperus species.

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