PLANT FACT SHEET

Urochloa brizantha (Hochst. ex A. Rich.) Stapf.

GENUS *Urochloa* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Bread grass, Arm grass, Common signal grass

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

Seeds are sun dried, winnowed, ground into flour then cooked into a thick porridge.

DESCRIPTION

A grass. It is stout and rigid and grows 1.3 m high. It forms tussocks. The leaves are long and tapering. They have thick rough edges. There are up to 15 flower heads per stalk. The seed heads have seeds on one side. These heads are 8 cm long. The spikelets are 4-6 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hot, arid places. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall above 50 mm. It can grow in semi-desert and on terminate mounds. It grows between 50-2,400 m above sea level. It can tolerate shade. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 100 Brachiaria species.

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