PLANT FACT SHEET

Phragmites mauritianus Kunth

GENUS *Phragmites* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Lowveld reed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots

The young shoots although slightly bitter are cooked and eaten as a delicacy.
The sap from damaged stems is sweet and dried as a sugar.

DESCRIPTION

A reed grass. It is more robust than common reed. It can be 3 m high. The leaves are broad and flat. They are greyish. The leaves are 2.5 cm wide. They taper to a sharp point. The shoots at the base have very sharp short leaves. The stems are very stout and stiffly erect. The flower shoot is like a feather. It is at the top and can be 45 cm long and 20 cm wide. The light brown hairy spikelets are 1 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It grows in poorly waterlogged and seasonally flooded land. It grows from sea level to 1,600 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e8b59d11-8a42-49cb-ae99-6796a2ee1a07