

Sisyrinchium hitchcockii

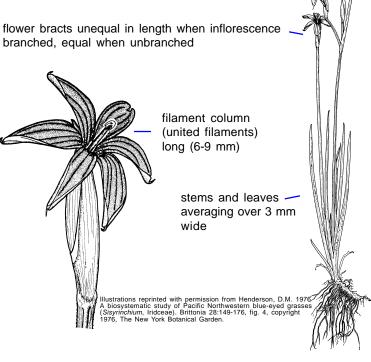
Iridaceae Hitchcock's blue eyed grass



best survey times J|F|M|A|M|J|J|A|S|O|N|D



Rhizomatous, pale glaucous green, perennial herb. Stems 1-3, erect to ascending, simple or branched with a leaf-like bract subtending one of two pedunculate spathes, conspicuously 2-winged, (1.5)2.5-4(4.5) mm, to 55 cm tall, the margins smooth or occasionally with minute, widely spaced teeth. **Leaves** shorter than the stems, lax to ascending or strict, (2.2)3-4(6.0) mm wide, the margins smooth to finely denticulate. Inflorescence terminal on the stem or pedunculate; spathe bracts very unequal when simple-stemmed or sub-equal when pedunculate; inner bract 20-25(28) mm long, the outer margin entire to finely toothed, the inner margins narrowly hyaline for ca. 2/3 the length of the bract; outer bract 23-37(45) mm long, often abruptly to an acute, in-curved apex, outer margin entire to finely toothed, the inner margins narrowly hyaline 1/2-3/4 the length of the bract, connate at the base for (3.1)5.0-6.0(7.5) mm. Flowers 2-7 on stout, glabrous, slightly spreading pedicels generally exceeding the inner bract; perianth dark reddish-purple, rarely dark blue, the yellow eye infrequent or lacking, the segments narrowly elliptic to narrowly oblanceolate, often truncate, aristulate, emarginate, (12)15-18(20) m long; outer tepals with a length/width ratio greater than 3; filament column 6.0-9.0 mm long, purple, glandular proximally for (1.5)2.0-3.5(4.0) mm; anthers yellow-orange, 1.5-2.8 mm long; ovary at anthesis, 2-3 mm long, spherical, stipitate-glandular. Fruits capsules, (5)6-7(8) mm long, globose.



flowers dark reddish-purple or dark blue

usually no yellow patch in center

(blue eyed grasses)

Lookalikes

Sisyrinchium spp other species have smaller flowers, lighter colored flowers, are not rhizomatous, and/or have stamen filaments that are not united the full length

Sisyrinchium hitchcockii D.M. Hend.

Hitchcock's blue eyed grass PLANTS symbol: SIHI4

August 2019 status Federal:SOC; Oregon:C; ORBIC: List 1



Distribution: Endemic to Willamette and Umpqua Valleys.

Habitat: Prairies, oak savannas.

Elevation: 50-300 m

Best survey time(in flower): May-early June





1 cm



