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*Acroceras zizanioides*

**Nomenclature:**

Family: Poaceae

Species: *Acroceras zizanioides* (Kunth) Dandy

**Synonyms:**

*Panicum zizanioides* Kunth

*Panicum oryzoides* Stapf

*Acroceras oryzoides* Stapf

*Echinochloa zizanioides* (Kunth) Roberty

*Echinochloa oryzoides* (Stapf) Roberty

*Panicum oryzoides* Sw.

*Panicum ogowense* Franch.

*Panicum lutetense* K. Schum.

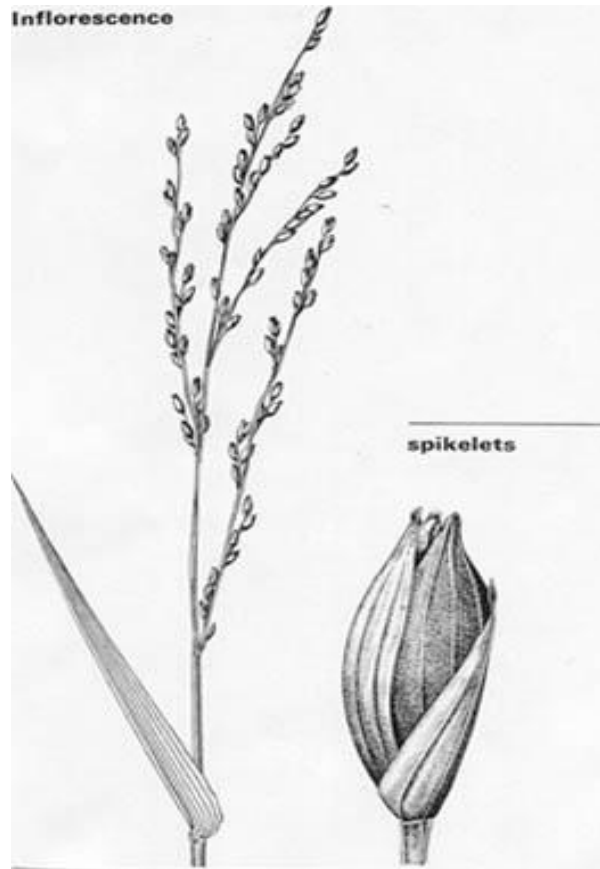
*Panicum balbisianum* Schult.

*Panicum latifolium* Hook. f.

**Common Names:** oats grass (Malaysia); arracillo (Spanish)

**Bayer Code:** ACOZI

**Description:** A perennial grass with widely scrambling or trailing stems, rooting at the nodes. Leaves narrowly lanceolate, 4–15 cm long, up to 3 cm wide, flat, faintly cross-veined, rounded and clasping at the base, gradually narrowing to an acute tip, glabrous. Ligule small and membranous. Leaf sheath rounded with a hairy margin. Flowering culms up to 100 cm high, the nodes glabrous. Inflorescence with a central axis 10–25 cm long and mainly divergent racemes 4–12 cm long, sometimes with secondary branching, their rachis triquetrous, glabrous. Spikelets lanceolate, 4.5–6.5 mm long, glabrous, the glumes not separated; upper glume and lower lemma distinctly nipped at the tip.



*Acroceras zizanioides*  
Häfliger and Scholz, 1980

**Distribution:**

Listed as a “principal” weed in Trinidad, “present” in Australia, and in the flora of Suriname, but little of the biology is known (Holm *et al.*, 1979)

World grasses (Häfliger and Scholz, 1980)

Uganda, Tanzania, West Africa to Angola, India, tropical America (Clayton and Renvoize, 1982)

Senegal, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Fernando Po, Congo, Angola, India, tropical America (Heppner *et al.*, 1972)

Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe, India, Mexico, Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, French Guiana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay (USDA, 2001)



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**Biology and Ecology:** *Acrocerus zizanioides* is recorded as a “principal” weed of Trinidad (Holm *et al.*, 1979). It is a vigorous, widespread species, flourishing in semi-aquatic and forest situations in Africa, Asia, and tropical America. In West Africa, it is locally frequent to abundant, usually in shady sites, in both disturbed and undisturbed soils, in forest and throughout the interior and coastal savannas (Rose-Innes, 1977). It occurs in marshy places in shallow water and in forest shade (Clayton and Renvoize, 1982). *Acrocerus zizanioides* would seem well adapted to be a significant threat to wetlands and forests in tropical regions of the United States.

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