



# WANTED

## TAMBOOKIE GRASS

### *Hyparrhenia hirta*

#### Glossary

##### **Inflorescence**

The arrangement of the flowers and flower axes.

##### **Perennial**

With a life span extending over more than two growing seasons.

##### **Rhizomes**

A creeping stem, usually below ground from which new aerial shoots arise.

##### **Tufted**

Loose clumping of stems at base.

#### **For More Information**

##### **Contact**

Eastern Hills Catchment Management Program  
Tel: (08) 9424 2222

Shire of Mundaring Bushcare Co-ordinator  
Tel: (08) 9290 6685

Shire of Kalamunda Bushcare Co-ordinator  
Tel: (08) 9257 9936

#### **Introduction**

Tambookie Grass was introduced for soil stabilisation and is now increasing and spreading rapidly along road and rail reserves, and invading adjacent bushland, throughout the whole of the south-west.

It is also considered a problem in pastures areas. It is potentially a very serious roadside and bushland weed.

#### **Origin**

Africa, the Mediterranean and south-west Asia.

#### **Status**

Priority weed species for the Shire of Kalamunda and the Shire of Mundaring.

#### **Lifeform**

Perennial grass.

#### **Description**

Tambookie Grass is a densely-tufted grass up to 1.5 m tall.

**Leaves:** Grey-green blades; flat, linear.

**Flowers/Seedheads:** Green/grey inflorescence.

#### **Reproduction & Dispersal**

Reproduces by seeds

(erratically) and spreads by rhizomes.

#### **Growing Habit**

Regrowth after fire is vigorous.

#### **Distribution**

Geraldton-Esperance.

#### **Flowering Season**

November - July

#### **Effects on Ecosystem**

Regrowth after fire is vigorous.

It is highly invasive in disturbed areas, competes with native plants and creates a fire hazard.

The characteristics of vigorous growth, prolific seed production and effective seed dispersal enables Tambookie Grass to compete strongly with, or in some places displace, native vegetation.

It may also change the fuel load in plant communities.

#### **Control**

##### **Manual Removal**

Manual control is difficult, as the complete root system must be removed.

Dig out small infestations, removing complete root system.

Avoid dumping garden refuse containing these grasses in areas where they may establish.

Mowing and cultivation are ineffective.

##### **Chemical Treatment**

Seedlings may be sprayed with a grass selective herbicide.

Mature plants may be spot sprayed with glyphosate; best between November to March.

In areas with native grasses, reduce the herbicide dose.

Please see 'Herbicides and Pesticides' factsheet for more information about spraying chemicals.



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