

# Mission grass, annual

## *Cenchrus pedicellatus*

Annual mission grass is an introduced species that threatens biodiversity in northern savannas and southern Australia. Annual mission grass is not a declared weed in the Northern Territory.

### HABIT



Annual, tussocking grass to 1m tall. Some populations may reach 1.5m or more in height.

### STEMS & BRANCHES



The stems are slender and fairly straight, sometimes rooting at the lower nodes.

### LEAVES



Smooth to hairy leaf blades up to 45cm long and 1.8mm wide. The base of the leaf blade has a ring of short hairs about 2mm long.

Can have a reddish colour particularly when stressed.

### FLOWER SPIKE



Flower heads are a dense spike on tall thin stalks well above the leaves, pale purple, erect to slightly drooping. Can have a pink purplish tinge.

### SEED HEAD



Seeds are hairy on the lower half, making them ideal for dispersal by wind, and on animals and vehicles. Notable space between seeds on spike.

Weed Management Officers from the Weed Management Branch can provide advice on all aspects of weed management including control techniques, biological control, legislative responsibilities, policy advice, monitoring and reporting and regional planning. For further information on weed management planning, integrated control, herbicide application techniques and monitoring please refer to the [NT Weed Management Handbook](#).