

Buffel grass

Cenchrus ciliaris

Buffel grass is a declared weed in accordance with the *Weeds Management Act*.

A number of grasses in the genus *Cenchrus* and the closely related genus *Pennisetum* occur in Australia, including native and introduced, annual and perennial species.

Buffel grass is a pasture grass that has become a major weed of native ecosystems.

HABIT



Deep-rooted perennial grass to 1m high, forming dense tussocks.

STEMS & ROOTS



Buffel grass has erect stems, and often roots from the lower nodes.

LEAVES



Leaf blade bluish-green, to 30cm long and to 1.3cm wide. Leaves are hairy, flat or folded, with pointed tips. Base of leaf blade has a ring of short hairs (ligules).

FLOWERS



Seed heads in a dense, hairy cylindrical spike up to 15cm long and to 2cm wide.

SEED HEADS



1 - 4 spikelets surrounded at the base with bristles with forward directed barbs, and forming soft purple burrs to 16mm long.

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](#). For more information on managing Buffel grass, please refer to the [Buffel grass Management Guide](#).