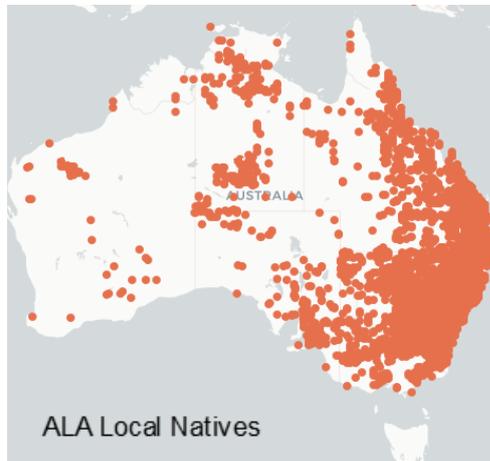


Poaceae
Panicum effusum
 hairy panic



Ann Moran
Field Botanist



ETYMOLOGY

(PAN-ic-um) Latin name used by Pliny for Italian Millet; The Latin species *effusum* (ef-FEW-sus) spread out thinly indeterminate; alluding to the variable inflorescence with flowers scattered along numerous branchlets; Inflorescence an open panicle.

LIFEFORM

Grass 20-40 cm

OCCURS

Jericho Qld to NSW, Vic, SA, WA, NT

QLD DISTRICTS

Burke, Burnett, Cook, Darling Downs, Gergory North, Leichhardt, Maranoa, Mitchell, Moreton, North/South Kennedy, Port Curtis, Warrego, Wide Bay

HABITAT

Open forest

LEAVES

Blades, 3-15 cm x 2-6 mm, with hairs about 1 mm, all over both sides. Nodes and base distinctly hairy.

FLOWERS

Terminal 30 cm panicles yellow-green, spikelet with lateral branches of varying lengths and often branching, with spikelets solitary or paired, mainly at the ends of the axes.

Flowering Times Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

FRUIT

Branching seed heads: Caryopsis within spikelet, entire unit being shed at maturity, ripen

Fruiting Times Aug, Sept

ROOTS

Fibrous roots, non-rhizomatous

STEM

Stout tussock forming smooth hairless with bluish tinges; Prolific in disturbed areas or after fire or drought.

ETHNOBOTANY

Fodder, Reputation for causing photo-sensitisation under certain circumstances; Cause of 'yellow big head' in sheep, pigs when eaten by sheep causes photo-sensitisation, Crude protein 6.4-18.1% phosphorus 0.19-0.27%90

BIRDS

Seeds eaten by Doubled Bar Finch, Red-browed Finch (Seen Sept), Stubble Quail

BUTTERFLY

Suniana sunias (Wide-brand Grass-dart)

INDIGENOUS USES

Attractive profuse seeds ground and baked.

ID FEATURE

Stems internodes and base distinctly hairy + Lower glume being blunt 1/2 length of the flower + lower florets sterile + lower branches of the seed head are single & not whorled.