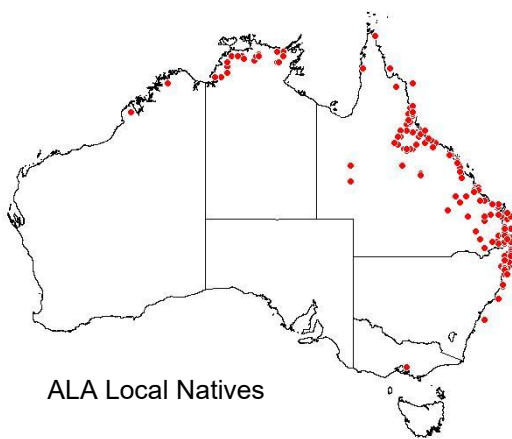
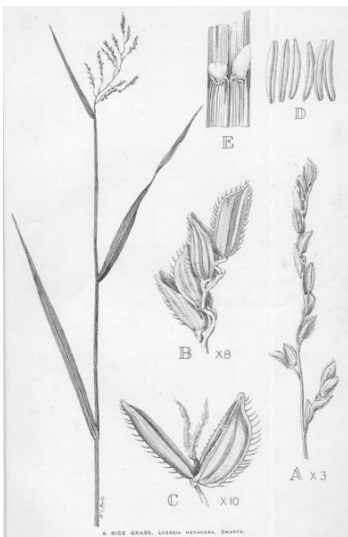


## Poaceae

### *Leersia hexandra*

swamp rice grass



Ann Moran  
Field Botanist



#### ETYMOLOGY

(LEER-zee-a) After Johann Leers 1727-1774 Apothecary in Germany who wrote "Flora Herborenensis"; The Greek species hexandra from hexa = six + aner = man; The florets possess 6 anthers;

#### LIFEFORM

Grass 10-100 cm

#### STATUS

Southern geographical limit Port Jackson NSW High conservation priority

#### OCCURS

Yourka Bush Heriage, Rockhampton to Brisbane River Qld to Coastal NSW, NT

#### QLD DISTRICTS

Burnett, Cook, Darling Downs, Leichhardt, Moreton, North/South Kennedy, Port Curtis, Wide Bay

#### HABITAT

Freshwater edges, Swamp, Creekside

#### LEAVES

Blades, 10-20 x 0.4-0.8 cm, glaucous narrow, flat, green, saw-like margin and midrib underside; Spikelets 3.4-4.8 mm;

#### FLOWERS

Panicles 5-15 cm, made up of several spikes on short, erect twisted stalks; No Glumes open to sparsely branched, 1 bisexual floret lemma 5-nerved glumes absent;

**Flowering Times** March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept

#### FRUIT

Grain 4 mm, dry, 1-seeded, indehiscent fruit. fringed glumes, rarely developed seed enclosed by floral parts (lemma and palea) has spiny margins;

**Fruiting Times** March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept

#### ROOTS

Strongly stoloniferous with long branching rhizomes

#### STEM

Aquatic or semi-aquatic perennial grass; Hairless rough wiry erect stems, leaning, nodes hairy, stems are submerged under water;

#### WILDLIFE

Provides shelter for frog and amphibians

#### LANDSCAPE USES

Suitable for planting on dam margins; excellent refuge many waterbirds

#### INSECTS

*Creatonotus gangis* Tiger Moth

#### BUTTERFLY

*Arrhenes marnas* Swamp Darter, *Parnara amalia* Orange Swift, *Parnara bada* Grey Swift  
*Suniana sunias* Wide-brand Grass-dart *Melanitis leda* Evening Brown

#### INDIGENOUS USES

Seeds eaten;

#### ID FEATURES

Useful feature minute retrorse hairs on the backs of leaves are readily detected by running a finger along the midrib near the leaf base;