

# Whisky grass (*Andropogon virginicus*)

This weed is listed in Appendix 2 of the Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017- 2022 as being a threat to the environment.



## What does it look like?

- An erect perennial with tufted branches in solid culms to 1 m high<sup>1</sup>.
- Leaves with ligule strongly ciliate; blade flat or folded, 2–5 mm wide, upper surface covered in long soft hairs towards the base<sup>1</sup>.

## Where does it grow?

Whisky grass prefers open sunny areas so can be found along roadsides, disturbed sites, waste areas, pastures, wetlands, grasslands and open woodlands.

## How does it spread?

This plant produces many seeds that are mostly spread by the wind, water animals and vehicles and are able to readily establish on exposed soil.

## How does it affect the environment?

Whisky grass unlike many exotic weeds is also known to invade native plant communities that are extremely deficient in nutrients. It is highly flammable at certain times

of the year and can significantly alter the fire regime in areas where it invades. It is also known to affect other ecosystem-level functions (e.g. it lowers soil evaporation and causes accelerated erosion)<sup>2</sup>.

## Reference and controls

<sup>1</sup>PlantNet – FloraOnline

<sup>2</sup>Brisbane City Council

General information on control methods, can be found in the most recent edition of the *NSW Weed Control Handbook* (found on the DPI website). The most appropriate weed control methods should always be checked with your Local Control Authority (local council or county council).

Scan the code below for more detailed information:

