

Australian sedge

Carex Longibrachiata



What does it look like?

Australian sedge is a strong perennial type tussock/sedge which grows up to 90cm tall. This plant has Y-shaped leaves with a width around 5 mm, and bluish-green. Flower stems are triangular and sharp-angled grouped spikes which hang at the end of the thin/ long nodding stalks.

Distinguished from other carex species due to a characteristic flower/ seed head that has a drooping panicle (much-branched flower head) with green to pale brown seeds hanging at the ends of long, thin, cotton-like filaments.

Australian sedge favours ground which is seasonally dry from coastal and scrublands to slopping and shaded areas.

Most commonly spotted: Flowers and seeds from October to February.

Why is it a problem?

Australian sedge is a prolific seeder and spreads from infested machinery to clear land. It can form dense cover over farmland and also invade scrub and forest margins suppressing native plants and seedlings.

Control methods

Dig or grub out (small patches only): Best in summer.

For agrichemical control for refer to: [Australian sedge • Weedbusters](#)

More information

Similar species: Other Carex species have similar characteristics but prefer swampy areas and have different seed heads.

Management programme

- Progressive Containment
- National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA)

Rules

- Council will work with landowner/occupier, including developing agreements for the effective management of this pest to protect the values of specific sites.
For more information about this rule, refer to our Regional Pest Management Plan under related links
- **Rule 1.08:** All land occupiers shall on a complaints basis, and unless otherwise agreed between the neighbours and authorised Council staff, destroy this pest plant on their land within 50m of a boundary with an adjacent property within 21 calendar days of being notified of the presence of the pest, where the adjacent land occupier is controlling these pests on their land. This also includes specific rules **1.05, 1.06, 1.07, 1.16** for mapped progressive containment programme pest plants.
For more information about these rules, refer to our Regional Pest Management Plan.