

WEED OF THE MONTH

WANTED: NAVUA SEDGE

Have you seen Navua sedge growing in your lawns or roadsides? Navua sedge (*Cyperus aromaticus*) is an aggressive sedge that competes strongly for nutrients, light and moisture.



The species is capable of expanding and outcompeting pastures and displacing native grasses. It is difficult to control selectively and can decrease productivity significantly.

The weed is unpalatable and provides no feed value for grazing animals such as cattle.

Originally native to tropical Africa, Navua sedge has been introduced to a number of countries, including Australia.

Here are some quick tips to help you more easily identify Navua sedge:

- Navua sedge is a perennial sedge, reaching to a height of 30-70cm.
- The stem is underground which produces shoots at regular intervals along its length and develops into a shallow root system.
- Each plant has a cluster of drooping, narrow leaves at the base of the stem, up to 6 leaf bracts per plant. Three of these are short, while the other three are long.
- The flower stalk is triangular with the flower at the apex of the stalk.
- The seeds are an egg shape that are green-brown and black coloured.
- Each flower head produces 250 seeds.
- Seeds can remain viable for 10 years.

Please help us to target this invasive plant for early detection and eradication.

If you are unsure whether you have found Navua Sedge,

USEFUL CONTACTS

Online

- www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/identify-specimens
- www.cook.qld.gov.au/services/biosecurity/plants

or if you find another plant you want to be identified, you can send a sample to the Queensland Herbarium for identification. This is a free service, and instructions on how to collect and send a sample can be found at the Queensland Herbarium's website listed above.

Should your sample prove to be Navua sedge or another weed species, don't hesitate to contact Cook Shire Council's Biosecurity Services team for further treatment or management plans.



DOG ATTACKS