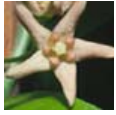




Invasive Plant Atlas of New England

Catalog of Species Search Results



[:: Catalog of Species Search](#)



Miscanthus sinensis

(Eulalia
Chinese silvergrass
miscanthus)

[Common Name\(s\)](#) | [Full Scientific Name](#) | [Family Name Common](#) | [Family Scientific Name](#) | [Images](#) | [Synonyms](#) | [Description](#) | [Similar Species](#) | [Reproductive/Dispersal Mechanisms](#) | [Distribution](#) | [History of Introduction in New England](#) | [Habitats in New England](#) | [Threats](#) | [Early Warning Notes](#) | [Management Links](#) | [Documentation Needs](#) | [Additional Information](#) | [References](#) | [Data Retrieval](#) | [Maps of New England Plant Distribution](#)

COMMON NAME

Eulalia
Chinese silvergrass
miscanthus

FULL SCIENTIFIC NAME

Miscanthus sinensis Anderss.

FAMILY NAME COMMON

Grass family

FAMILY SCIENTIFIC NAME

Poaceae

IMAGES



Incursion



Inflorescence



Dehiscent seeds



Planting of
Miscanthus



Roots

NOMENCLATURE/SYNONYMS

Synonyms: None

DESCRIPTION

Botanical Glossary

Miscanthus sinensis is a **highly variable** robust perennial grass that can grow to 2-3 m (6.5-10 ft.) in height. It is usually found in large tufts. The branches are very flexible and spread or droop. The leaves are elongate and can measure 1 m (3 ft.) in length and 2.5 cm (1 in.) in width. The leaves have a silver white midrib. The tips of the leaves are sharp and recurving.

The fan-shaped terminal panicle is 15-61 cm (6-24 in.) long and can be silvery to pale pink in color. The branches of the panicle are erect or ascending. These panicles reach full maturity in the fall. The glabrous spikelets are very small, yellow-brown in color and encircled at the base with white or purple-colored hairs. The lemmas measure 2-3 mm (0.1 in.) long. Each fertile lemma bears an awn that is 8-10 mm long and is spirally twisted at its base.

*There are a wide variety of cultivars of this plant which may not fit this exact description.

Page References Bailey 155, Fernald 228, Gleason & Cronquist 814, Holmgren 771, Magee & Ahles 191. See reference section below for full citations.

SIMILAR SPECIES

None

REPRODUCTIVE/DISPERSAL MECHANISMS

Miscanthus sinensis has the ability to reproduce vegetatively via rhizomes. It can also be dispersed longer distances through its mechanically or wind-dispersed seeds. Though some of the horticultural varieties do not self-seed, many of them still have this ability.

DISTRIBUTION

Miscanthus sinensis is native to China, Japan and Korea. In the United States it has been reported from Massachusetts to Florida and west to Louisiana and Missouri, as well as from California and Colorado. In New England this plant has been reported in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Miscanthus sinensis is a horticultural introduction that has the ability to naturalize from its original site of planting. Though the exact first date of introduction into this country is unknown, more than 50 cultivars of *M. sinensis* have been introduced since 1980.

HABITATS IN NEW ENGLAND

Coastal Grassland
Edge
Open Disturbed Area
Roadside
Vacant Lot
Yard or Garden

Miscanthus sinensis depends on disturbance to become established. It is usually found along the edges of roads and woods.

THREATS

The invasiveness of this plant is still being assessed, but it does have the ability to form large clumps that can displace native species.

EARLY WARNING NOTES

Miscanthus sinensis is not yet a major problem in New England, and still has not been reported from Vermont, New Hampshire or Maine. New sites should be watched for and reported.

MANAGEMENT LINKS

[The Nature Conservancy](#)

DOCUMENTATION NEEDS

Documentation required: A specific photograph or mounted snippet of the leaves and inflorescences.

Best time for documentation: Fall.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[NBII- Southern Appalachian Information Node](#)
Reference list

www.invasive.org
Description, images, and links

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System](#)
Taxonomic information

[PLANTS Database](#)
General information and map

[The Nature Conservancy](#)
Descriptive and control information

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DATA RETRIEVAL

Select a task by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- Formatted display as table
- Export as comma-delimited text file

MAPS OF PLANT DISTRIBUTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Select a study area by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- The whole New England area
- One or more states
- One or more counties
- One or more towns (county sub-divisions)

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