

# *Imperata cylindrica*

## COGON GRASS

Poaceae

Common Synonyms: *Lagurus cylindricus*

**FLEPPC Category:** 1

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes

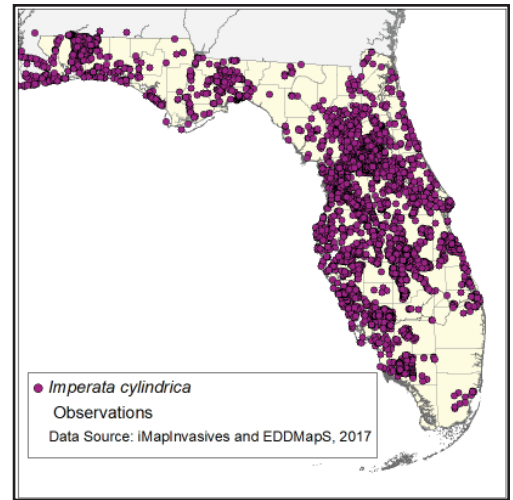
**IFAS Assessment**

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 6a-9b

**Growth Habit:** Graminoid

**Origin:** Doubtful: East Africa



Michelle M. Smith

**Description:** Perennial grass, growing in loose or compact tufts, from stout, creeping rhizomes with sharp-pointed tips. Leaf sheaths relatively short, glabrous or pubescent; membranous ligule 0.5-1 mm long. Leaf blades erect, flat, narrow and pubescent at base, to 1.2 m tall and to 2 cm wide, with noticeably off-center whitish midvein. Inflorescence a dense terminal panicle, white silky and plume-like, to 21 cm long and 3.5 cm wide. Spikelets paired on unequal stalks, each spikelet surrounded by long white hairs.

**Habitat:** Disturbed areas

**Florida Introduction Date:** 1930s

**Control Methods:** Mechanical: Burning or tillage in combination with Herbicides should be used for optimum control..

Chemical: Foliar: 3-5% glyphosate with 6-12 mo retreatment interval, 1-2% imazapyr with 8-12 retreatment interval, or a glyphosate (2%)+imazapyr (0.5%) mix with 7-12 month retreatment interval. Repeated treatments required, best to alternate active ingredients in treatments to reduce likelihood of creating herbicide resistance. [IFAS, . Biological: Dr. Jim Cuda (IFAS) is researching several biocontrol agents

**Useful Resources:**

NISIC-USDA. 2017. Species Profile: *Imperata cylindrica*. <https://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/plants/cogongrass.shtml>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

IFAS, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants. 2013. Cogongrass, *Imperata cylindrica*. <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/imperata-cylindrica/>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

Dave's Garden. PlantFiles: Cogongrass, *Imperata cylindrica*. <http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/776/#b>. Accessed June 13, 2017.

**Comments:**