**Actinoscirpus grossus**

**Nomenclature:**
Family: Cyperaceae  
Species: *Actinoscirpus grossus* (L. F.) Goetgh. & D. A. Simpson

**Synonyms:**
*Scirpus grossus* L. F.  
*Scirpus aemulans* Steud.  
*Scirpus maximus* Roxb.  
*Schoenoplectus grossus* (L. F.) Palla  
*Hymenochaeta grossa* (L. F.) Nees

**Common Names:** giant bulrush; greater club-rush and rumput menderong (Malaysia); mensiang, walingi, wlingi, lingi, and wlingen (Indonesia)

**Bayer Code:** SCPRG

**Description:** Perennial with long stolons/rhizomes ending in small tubers. Stems sharply three-angled with concave sides, up to 200 cm high, 10 mm thick, septate, smooth or slightly scabrid toward the top. Leaves 50–80 cm long, up to 2 cm wide, keeled beneath, margins scabrid, bristly, and ending in a very acute tip. Sheaths broad, spongy, straw-colored, with prominent transverse veinlets. Inflorescence a terminal, irregular, several-times-branched umbel, the branches mainly toward the tips of the primary branches, and narrowly angled, 5–17 cm long. Inflorescence bracts two or more, leafy, 15–70 cm long. Spikelets solitary, sessile or peduncled, narrowly ovoid, 3–10 mm long by 2–4 mm wide, densely many-flowered. Glumes arranged helically, broadly oval, concave, margins narrowly hyaline, ciliate; reddish brown with green midrib shortly mucronate. Perianth of 4–6 filiform hypogynous bristles, sparsely covered in minute hairs pointing downward, as long as the nut. Stamens and stigmas three. Nut trigonous, smooth, brown 1.25–1.75 mm long by 1 mm wide (Nolte, 2000; Kostermans *et al.*, 1987).
**Actinoscirpus grossus**  
**Kostermans et al., 1987**

**Distribution:** *Actinoscirpus grossus* is native to Southeast Asia. It has naturalized in Australia, Borneo, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indochina, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam.
**Biology and Ecology:** *Actinocirpus grossus* is a “principal” weed of four Southeast Asian countries, presumably as a weed of rice crops (Holm et al., 1979). It occurs in swampy and inundated places, pools, ditches, and marshes and is locally abundant, especially in the lowlands. It is also a host of *Chilo polychrysus*, the dark-headed rice borer (Kostermans et al., 1987). It is a robust, widespread and important weed, spreading by stolons and capable of dominating rice crops and wetlands. As such, *Actinocirpus grossus* poses a significant threat to tropical areas of the United States.
References: