
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).

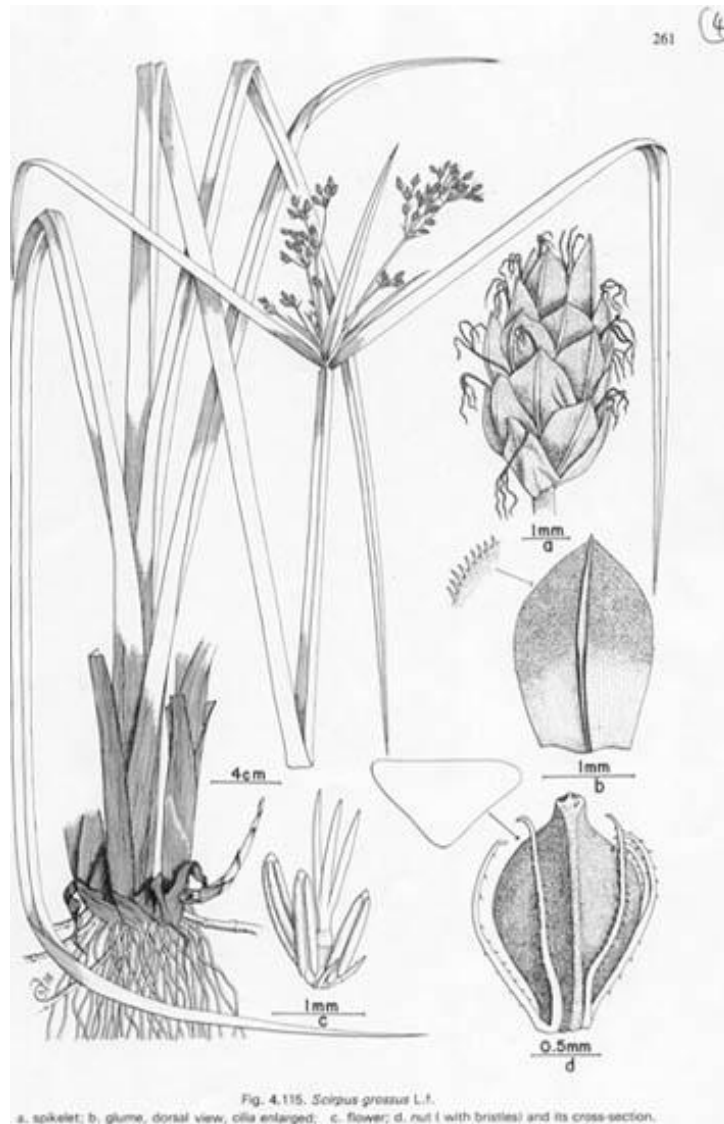
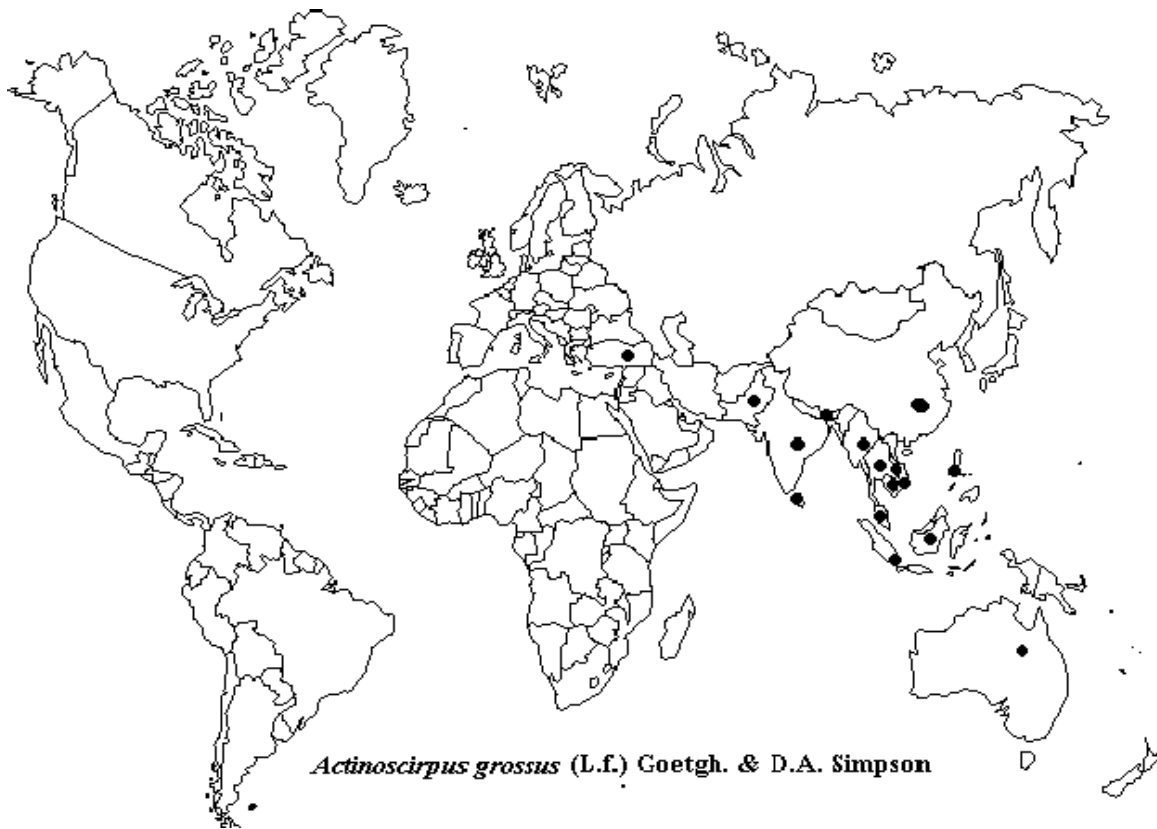


Fig. 4.115. *Actinoscirpus grossus* L.f.
a. spikelet; b. glume, dorsal view, cilia enlarged; c. flower; d. nut (with bristles) and its cross-section.

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.



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Biology and Ecology: *Actinoscirpus 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, *Actinoscirpus grossus* poses a significant threat to tropical areas of the United States.

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