

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PMPOA68030

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Tripsacum lanceolatum*

COMMON NAME: Mexican Gramagrass

SYNONYMS: *Tripsacum lemmoni* Vassey, *T. dactyloides* var. *lemmoni* Beal, *T. acutiflorum*

FAMILY: Graminae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Rupr. ex. Fourn., Mex. Gram. 68. 1886.

TYPE LOCALITY: Aguas Calientes, Mexico.

TYPE SPECIMEN:

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:

DESCRIPTION: Stout, 9.9-27.0 m (3.0-9.0 ft.) tall, forming a large clump, from large rhizomes. Leaves tapering to a slender point. Male spikelets in spike-like racemes; in pairs, one of each pair stalked (pediceled), one without a stalk (sessile), both 6.0-11.0 mm (0.24-0.44 in.) long, with thin glumes. Female spikelets sunken into the stem, alternate on opposite sides of the stem (rachis), with heavy, hard glumes.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS: Line drawing (Hitchcock 1950).

TOTAL RANGE: Southern Arizona to Guatemala

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: Mule and Huachuca Mountains, Cochise County, near Patagonia and in Sycamore Canyon, Santa Cruz County, and in Pinal County.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Perennial grass

PHENOLOGY: August - October

BIOLOGY: Extreme northern range in Arizona. Closely related to cultivated corn, Zea mays

HABITAT: Rocky slopes in wooded canyons.

ELEVATION: 3,500 - 6,000 ft.

EXPOSURE: Open; partial shade.

SUBSTRATE: Granitic soils.

PLANT COMMUNITY: Desert grasslands/open oak woodland.

POPULATION TRENDS: Unknown in Arizona, but apparently stable in Mexico

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS:

STATE STATUS:

OTHER STATUS:

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

CONSERVATION MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Update status of known populations. Survey for new populations. Organismal and population biology studies are needed.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: Coronado National Forest.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

LITERATURE CITATIONS:

Cutler, H.C. and E. Anderson. 1941. Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden. 28(3):249-269.

Gould, F.W. 1951. Grasses of southwestern U.S., University of Arizona Press, Tucson, AZ. p.314.

Hitchcock, A.S. 1950. Manual of the grasses of the United States, 2nd Edition. U.S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous Publication #200.

Toolin, VanDevender, Kaiser. 1979. Journal of the Arizona Academy of Science.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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