Molasses grass  
*Melinis minutiflora*

Introduced from Africa, molasses grass adopts a densely smothering habit. Once established it grows thickly from rooted runners and can exclude other species. In some Pacific countries it is regarded as a good forage grasses, yet, in Australia, its weediness is undesirable.

The dense mats formed by this plant are quite fire-resistant, with rapid regeneration from the surviving portions. Infestation may increase from the subsequent invasion of surrounding burned areas. This species is readily dispersed by wind.

Molasses grass is an invasive plant which can disrupt native flora communities and ecosystems.

**Description**

This weed is a spreading, perennial mat grass. Stems are branched and up to 90cm long.

Generally, the foliage is sticky and has a strong odour like that of molasses, hence the common name. Leaf blades are commonly up to 30cm long and reddish in colour. The slender flower heads are 10–20cm long and may be purplish in colour when young.

**Management**

Manually chip out small infestations or individual plants.

If you would like further information on molasses grass look at the [A–Z Listing of Weeds](http://www.queensland.gov.au) at Queensland Government Website.

**Reference:** Land Protection (Invasive Plants and Animals), 2007, “PP88, Weed Busters Fact Sheet”, the State of Queensland, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.