



# BOLO



## be on the lookout for Cogon Grass

November 2006

### Cogon grass has been found in the Francis Marion National Forest

Cogon grass is one of the top 10 noxious weeds in the world. This highly aggressive grass has the potential to **eliminate** plant and animal diversity in the Francis Marion. It is fast growing, difficult to eradicate and fire-tolerant. Please report any sightings of this plant to Dr. Jean Everett, Department of Biology, College of Charleston at [everettj@cofc.edu](mailto:everettj@cofc.edu) or 843-953-7843. Additional information and images at [www.cofc.edu/~everettj/cogongrass.html](http://www.cofc.edu/~everettj/cogongrass.html).

#### How to identify cogon grass:

1. **Leaves** – bright green, up to 6' long, narrow and sharp pointed; mid-vein is light-colored and noticeably off center; margins of the leaves are finely serrate and rough to the touch; base of the leaf has silky hairs; stems are short, so the leaves appear to arise from the base of the plant
2. **Roots** – the plant spreads by pale underground stems that are stout and sharp pointed; fibrous roots arise along these stems
3. **Flowers** – cylindrical, pale, fuzzy-looking panicles 3-6" long
4. **Habit** – dense, sometimes circular patches; this grass has a very aggressive appearance
5. **Habitat** – anywhere except perhaps permanent standing water



For more information:

<http://www.cogongrass.org> – a complete description, control measures and many links

[http://www.floridata.com/ref/I/impe\\_cyl.cfm](http://www.floridata.com/ref/I/impe_cyl.cfm) – describes similar species and tells how to distinguish cogon grass

<http://www.invasive.org/browse/subject.cfm?sub=2433> – many additional links

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/imcy1.htm>

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=IMCY>

<http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?fr=1&si=16&sts>

<http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/imp cyl.html>