

# *Cyperus javanicus* Houtt.

Family:  
Cyperaceae

Houttuyn, M. (1782) *Natuurlyke Historie of Uitvoerige Beschryving der Dieren, Planten en Mineraalen Pt. II*, 12: 53, 68 + 88, fig. 1. Type: not cited.

## Stem

Tufted perennial with short rhizomes. Culms obtusely trigonous, densely papillose, 40-120 cm tall.

## Leaves

Leaves long and folded on base, flat above, 2-13 mm wide, septate-nodulose.

## Flowers

Inflorescences 1 or more times compound, with 6-12 primary rays each up to 8 cm long; involucre bracts 4-6, much longer than inflorescence; spikes broadly cylindrical, 1.5-2 x 1-1.5 cm; spikelets oblong-ovate, acute, 5-10 x 2-2.5 mm, 6-10 -flowered; rachilla broadly winged; glumes broadly ovate-elliptic, 2.5-3.5 mm long, with brown striped sides.

## Fruit

Nut dark brown to black, ellipsoid-obovoid, trigonous, 1.2-1.5 mm long.

## Seedlings

Features not available.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA, NT, CYP, NEQ and CEQ, and southwards to south eastern Queensland. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 550 m. Grows in rainforest, gallery forest, sclerophyll and mesophyll vine thickets, swampy areas in various types of woodland and in dune scrub.

## Synonyms

*Mariscus javanicus* (Houtt.) Merr. & F.P.Metcalf, *Lingnan Science Journal* 21: 4(1945).

## RFK Code

4286



Herbarium specimen. © DERM

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