

Pyp Grass

(*Ehrharta villosa*)

Is Pyp grass on your property?

Pyp grass is included in Horizon's Regional Pest Plant Management Strategy as a plant managed under a national strategy by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand. Discovery of new infestations will be reported to Biosecurity New Zealand. If you see any sites of this plant, please contact us on free phone 0508 800 800.



Identification

Strongly rhizomatous perennial grass to 2 m tall. Stout naked, hollow, jointed stems are cane-like, erect, with short rolled leaves. The seedhead is a slender panicle with purplish seeds, spring-summer.

Weedy characteristics

Tolerates hot, dry to damp conditions. Produces massive amount of widely dispersed, long-lived seeds. Growth and maturity rapid.

Methods of dispersal

Seeds and rhizomes.

Impact on indigenous plants

Competes and wins over native groundcover.

Typical habitats

Pasture, bare land, wetland, mainly on coastline. Sand dunes, intentionally planted for sand dune stabilisation.

Control

1. Dig out small patches and dispose of plants.
2. Weed wiper with glyphosate 50%. Spring-summer.
3. Spray dense stands with glyphosate 5% + penetrant. Spring-summer.

Site management

Report all new sites. Follow up required 6 monthly until eliminated.

Species recovery

Rhizomes resprout. Occasionally reseeds.

For more information freephone 0508 800 800.

