

the inflorescence.

- Harvest the infested acres/fields last and clean harvesters thoroughly after harvest.
- Clean machines/implements after operating in infested fields.
- Keep dams and meres (bunds) weed free by hand weeding or spraying with round-up.

### What should I not do?

- Use grains from infested fields as seed.
- Leave fields unflooded during seedling or early tillering stages or after treatment with herbicides.
- Move machines/implements from infested fields to clean fields.
- Irrigate clean fields through infested fields.

### Available Chemical Methods

Chemicals	Application Rate/acre	Comments
Nominee 400 SC	40 to 60 ml	Use 10 to 15 ml/ knapsack sprayer
Designee	60 to 80 ml	Use 15 to 20 ml/ knapsack sprayer
Rice Weed Killer	80 to 100 ml	Use 20 to 25 ml/ knapsack sprayer

**NB:** Spray when crop is 3 to 5 weeks old using 4 CP3 cans per acre. Drain fields to expose weeds fully then re-flood 2-3 days after spraying. Use of sticker (equal amount with herbicide) is recommended, this enhances the efficacy.

### Notes

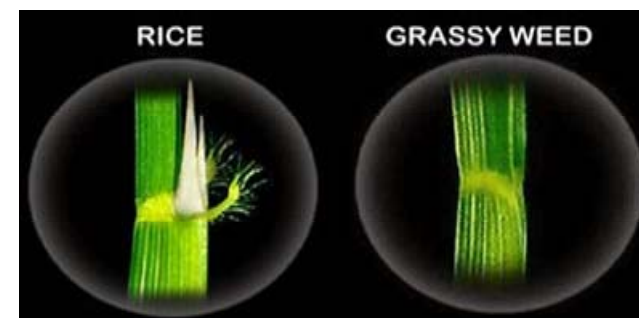


## GUYANA RICE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

### BURMA RICE RESEARCH STATION



### THE MANAGEMENT OF SCHNOONARD GRASS IN RICE IN GUYANA



## Introduction

Schoonard Grass (*Echinochloa glabrescens*), also called 'monkey tail' by farmers on the Essequibo Coast was first reported as a weed problem in a farmer's field at Schoonard on the West Bank of Demerara during the second crop of 1997.

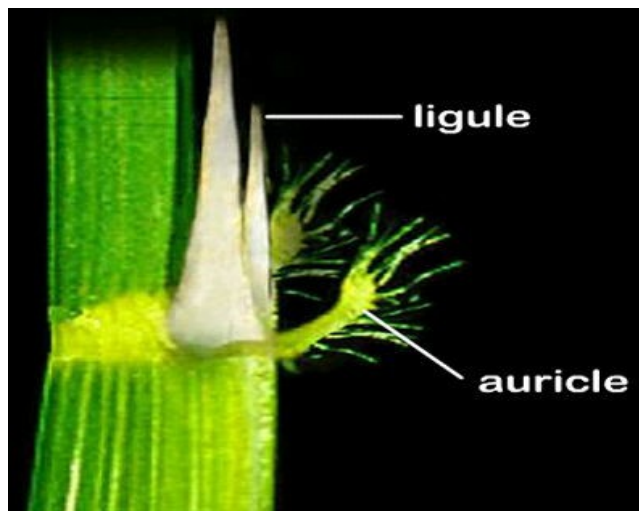
Since then, reports have come in from other rice growing regions of its presence as a noxious weed, forcing many farmers on the Essequibo Coast to abandon some heavily infested fields. It is estimated that this weed presently affects about 5,000 acres of rice land.

## Some Important Facts/Points About Schoonard Grass

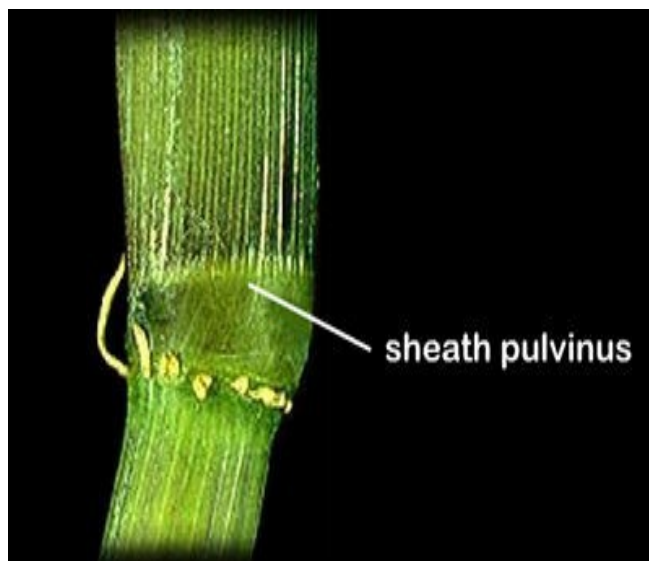
- It resembles the rice plant and is only distinguishable after the flower (inflorescence) has emerged.
- It is very well adapted to the conditions under which rice is grown.
- It can germinate and emerge through a moderate flood.
- It produces seed in an abundance over a wide period of its lifecycle.
- Seed appear to have a dormancy period .
- It has good vigour during the seedling stages of growth and responds well to fertilizers. It is therefore a strong competitor in the rice crop.

## Identifying Schoonard Grass

Schoonard Grass can be readily identified after inflorescence has emerged. This takes place when the plant is approximately 45 days old. At this time, it is too late for selective chemical intervention to be useful.



Ligule and auricle present on rice plant



Ligule and auricle absent on Schoonard Grass

It is therefore necessary to know the difference between rice plants and Schoonard Grass during the seedling stage of development when selective herbicides can be successfully used.

*Note: Rice has ligules and auricles at the point where the leaf sheath meets the blade. Schoonard Grass does not have these appendages. The leaf blade of Schoonard Grass is light green, glabrous, slightly droopy and has a glossy appearance.*

## What should I do?

- During the intercrop period, cultivate your land in such a manner so that flushes of Schoonard Grass and other volunteers are encouraged to grow and are destroyed.
- Use seed that is free from Schoonard Grass and other weeds.
- Use seed rate that will ensure a good plant stand.
- Keep fields flooded during crop establishment stage and after the application of post-emergence herbicides.
- If post-emergence herbicides are used, apply these during the seedling or early tillering stage of the weed, that is approximately 21-35 days after the crop is sown.
- Rouge or hand pull weeds as soon as they are recognizable when few plants are present. Viable seeds will not be present if this is done shortly after the emergence of