



BOLO
Be On the
Look Out!

Miscanthus floridulus

(sword grass)

Your kōkua is needed to prevent its spread and protect people and our native species.



Facts:

- Accumulates dry leaves, **creating a fire hazard**
- **Regenerates quickly after fire**
- Establishes on deforested lands
- **Forms dense thickets** that outcompete other plants
- Seeds are viable for 6 months making it difficult to eradicate
- **Seeds dispersed by wind**
- Produces chemicals that slow the growth of other plants
- Designated as a Hawai'i noxious weed



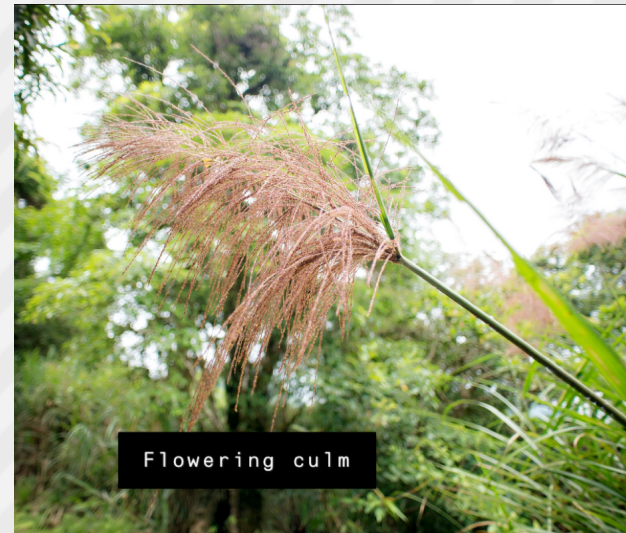
Flowering culms

Distribution:

- **First found on O'ahu in 1995** in Waipi'o at the Koa Ridge Mauka project
- **Recently found on O'ahu in 2011** at the Kahuku Training Area, near Pahipahialua Gulch

Identification:

- Broad-leaved bunchgrass that is **4-13 feet tall**
- Has thinner stems than sugarcane
- **Flowering culms are 10-20 inches long**
- Consist of many loose spreading, feathery branches that are whitish or brownish in color
- Leaves range in color from green to yellow and have sharp edges



Flowering culm

How You Can Help:

- **Stay on marked trails**
- **Wash gear and boots before and after** visiting at risk areas, this will help prevent the spread of seeds
- **Report any sightings to the 643-Pest app** so *Miscanthus floridulus* can be identified and removed
- Note where you found it and **take photos** if possible
- Do not attempt to pull it out, only report sightings



REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES
643-PEST
643pest.org
CALL OR CLICK TO PROTECT HAWAII

