

Schizachyrium condensatum

Schizachyrium condensatum (Kunth) Nees

Family: Poaceae

No common name.

Description: Perennial bunchgrass to 6 ft tall. Unbranched below, freely branching above. Leaves 16 inches long by 0.3 inches wide. Inflorescences at stem terminals, loose, numerous spikes (racemes), light colored. Greek *schizo*, split; *achuron*, chaff, referring to cleft palea, the inside bract clasping the flower⁽⁷⁰⁾; *condensatus*, dense or crowded, which may refer to the inflorescences or perhaps to the branched stems⁽⁵⁾.

Distribution: Native to tropical America. Occurs in mesic to humid grasslands and pastures on Hawai'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. Common at Kōke'e, Wailua, and Hanalei on Kaua'i. First reported on O'ahu in 1932.

Environmental impact: Forms dense stands in disturbed areas of pastures and forests. A fire hazard.



Management: Sensitive to glyphosate. HAVO staff reported control with foliar application of glyphosate at 1% of product in water (Chris Zimmer, HAVO). In pastures, grazing management and cultural measures probably more promising.