GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Alternanthera sessilis***

Alternanthera sessilis 简体中文 正體中文

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Caryophyllales	Amaranthaceae

Common name

brede embellage (English), palewawae (English, Hawaii Hawai'i), sessile joyweed (English), common roadside weed (English), okula beluulechad (English, Palau Islands), dwarf copperleaf (English), joyweed (English), fisi'i'ano (English, Tonga Islands), galuti (English, Fiji Islands), lianzi cao (English, China), vao sosolo (English, Samoan), ti (English, Nuku Hiva (Nukahiva) Island), horng-tyan-wu (English), periquito-sessil (English), phak pet thai (English, Taiwan), magloire (French), bhirangijhar (English, Nepal), mukunuwanna (English, Sri Lanka), brède chevrette (French), mata kura (English, 'Atiu Island)

Synonym

Achyranthes sessilis , (L.) Desf. Ex. Steud
Alternanthera glabra , Moq.
Gomphrena sessilis , L.
Alternanthera nodiflora , R. Br.
Alternanthera ficoidea , (L.) P. Beauv.
Alternanthera polygonoides , (L.) R. Br.
Alternanthera tenella , Moq.
Alternanthera trianda , Lam.
Illecebrum sessile , (L.) L.
Achyranthes linearifolia , Sw. ex Wikstr.
Achyranthes triandra , Roxb.
Achyranthes villosa , Blanco
Allaganthera forskalii , Mart.
Alternanthera achyranthes , Forssk.
Alternanthera angustifolia , R. Br.
Alternanthera decipiens , Benth.
Alternanthera denticulata , R. Br.
Alternanthera major , (Benth.) Domin
Alternanthera micrantha , (Benth.) Domin
Alternanthera nana , R. Br.
Alternanthera prostrata , D. Don.
Alternanthera repens , J.F.Gmel.
Alternanthera sennii , Mattei
Alternanthera sibirica , (de Vest ex Schult.) Steud.
Alternanthera tenuissima , Suess.
Alternanthera uliginosa , (Domin) Dinter
Bucholzia polygonoides , (L.) Mart.
Gomphrena polygonoides , (L.)
Illecebrum angustifolium , (R.Br.) Spreng.
Illecebrum denticulatum ,(R.Br.) Spreng.
Illecebrum nanum , (R.Br.) Spreng
Illecebrum polygonoides , (L.) L.
Illecebrum sibiricum , de Vest ex Schult.
Illecebrum triandrum , Llanos
Paronychia sessilis , (L.) Desf.
Paronychia tetragona , Moench
Steiremis repens , Raf.
Telanthera polygonoides , (L.) Moq.
Achyranthes polygonoides , (L.) Lam.

Similar species *Alternanthera philoxeroides*

Summary Alternanthera sessilis is a weed that inhabits many areas of the world. It occupies moist areas and can be found from sea level to over 2000m. Alternanthera sessilis is a pest of sugarcane, a weed of rice in tropical areas, and an agricultural weed that invades disturbed wet areas in tropical and subtropical regions. It has been used widely around the world for its medicinal uses, as well as for food. The plant has been readily used for food partly due to its abundance.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
Alternanthera sessilis has stems that lie flat and are 1-10 dm long. The leaves are sometimes spear-shaped but mostly elliptic and are 0.3-3cm wide. The petioles are 1-5mm long. The bract are shiny white under the flower's sessile spikes. The sepals are 2.5-3mm long and the uticles are 2-2.3mm long (PIER, 2006; Marquesas, undated). *A. sessilis* has a somewhat glistening fruit, that is light-beige yellow (FNWD, 2004). It can reach heights of up to 1 m.

Lifecycle Stages
During August-October, *Alternanthera sessilis* produces many utricles that spread with wind and water. Not far from where these were blown, seedlings begin to appear in April (Geng, 2006).

Uses
Alternanthera sessilis is used as a topical treatment for the common skin problem cane vulgaris. The antioxidant carotene is found in large amounts in the plant (Jerajoni *et al*. 2004). In southeast Asia young shoots and leaves are ingested as vegetables. In folklore, *A. sessilis* was used for treating sick individuals (USDA, 2004). Gayathri *et al* (2006) state that *A. sessilis* is \"used for the treatment of biliousness, dyspepsia associated with sluggish liver, chronic congestion of liver, acute and chronic pyelitis, cystitis, gonorrhea, and strangery and snake bite in Sri Lanka.\" In India and Sri Lanka, it is used for treatment of gastrointestinal problems. *A. sessilis* is used as a treatment for headaches and vertigo in Nigeria. It is also used to treat hepatitis, bronchitis, and asthma in Taiwan (Jansen, 2004).
A. sessilis is a plant that is puchased for a water garden and over the internet for aquariums (Tomaino, 2006). Also, it is bought for its low cost and taste by the people of Sri Lanka (Gayathri, 2006). *A. sessilis* is chopped up when it is fed to ducks and is also fed to pigs (Ogle, 2003). It is used in many different foods in Africa, such as soups, relish, and sauces.

Habitat Description
Alternanthera sessilis is \"a plant of damp places, ditches, wet headlands, roadsides, sometimes a weed of plantations\", and is located from sea level to elevations over 2000 m. It is also found in waste areas, gardens (PIER, 2006) and open fields (NSCRC, 2003).

Reproduction
Alternanthera sessilis transfers seeds by wind, water, and also rooting at the stem nodes (FNWD, 2004).

General Impacts
Alternanthera sessilis is a pest of sugarcane (Macdonald *et al*. 2003). It is also a weed of rice in tropical areas, and is also associated with bananas and other cereal crops (FNWD, 2004). According to Tomaino (2006), *A. sessilis* is an \"agricultural weed that invades disturbed wet areas in tropical and subtropical areas of the U.S.\" Overall, *A. sessilis* has a \"low significant ecological impact\" (Tomaino, 2006).*A. sessilis* is said to have impacts on liver problems by having hepatoprotective effects (Lin *et al*. 1994).

Management Info
Biological: Zettler and Freeman (1972) in their discussion on the biocontrol of aquatic plants, state that in India, *Alternanthera sessilis* a near relative of alligatorweed, is affected by the fungial species *Corticium solani*, *Colletotrichum capsici*, *Glomerella cingulata*, *Phoma* spp., and *Albugo bliti*.

Pathway
Alternanthera sessilis can be dispersed through horicultural activities (Maki and Galatowitsch, 2004)

Principal source: Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk (PIER). 2006. *Alternanthera sessilis*

Compiler: National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review:

Pubblication date: 2005-06-03

ALIEN RANGE

[3] AMERICAN SAMOA
[6] COOK ISLANDS
[4] FIJI
[1] GHANA
[1] MARSHALL ISLANDS
[1] NAURU
[1] NIGERIA
[1] PAPUA NEW GUINEA
[3] TONGA
[7] UNITED STATES
[1] WALLIS AND FUTUNA
[1] CHRISTMAS ISLAND
[3] ECUADOR
[8] FRENCH POLYNESIA
[1] LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
[1] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF
[1] NEW CALEDONIA
[1] NORFOLK ISLAND
[1] PUERTO RICO
[1] TUVALU
[1] VANUATU

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Managment information
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Summary: This paper wishes to raise awareness of alligator weed in Australia. It proposes management of the weed so that infestations can be eradicated in Australia.
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Maanaki Whenua Landcare Research., 2006. Alligator Weed Agents Dip Out. What s New in Biocontrol of Weeds. Issue 36 May 2006
Summary: Available from: http://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/publications/newsletters/weeds/wtsnew36.pdf [Accessed February 27 2007]
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General information

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Summary: This website gives a full description of *A. sessilis* on the Marquesas Islands.
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