

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Plant Abstract

Element Code: PMCY06550

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Cyperus hypopitys*

COMMON NAME: Pine flatsedge

SYNONYMS:

FAMILY: Cyperaceae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Gordon C. Tucker, Systematic Botany Monographs 43, 1994.

TYPE LOCALITY: Mexico: Sinaloa: Ocurahui, Sierra Surotato.

TYPE SPECIMEN: Univ. of Michigan Herbarium, MICH1109246. Howard Scott Gentry #6175. Aug. 27-30, 1941.

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS: *Cyperus* is a large genus of over 600 species distributed throughout all continents in both tropical and temperate regions. The most recent data from NatureServe lists 27 species found in Arizona, with five of these only being found in the State (considering the 48 contiguous States). *C. hypopitys* is one of these species found only in Arizona, but it also extends into northern Mexico.

DESCRIPTION: Herbs, perennial, rhizomatous, tending to form small clumps by basal offshoots. Culms triquetrous, bulbous, thickened, (20-)30-80(-90) cm × 0.7-1.2 mm, glabrous proximally, becoming trigonous strongly scabridulous on distal angles, clothed with persistent reddish fibers at base. Leaves flat to V-shaped, 20-45 cm × 2-4 mm. Inflorescences: spike 1, loosely ovoid to ovoid-ellipsoid, (1.5-)2.5-7 × (1-)1.5-3.5 cm; rays (1-)2-4, to 6 cm; 2d order rays rarely present, to 2 cm; 3d order rays absent; bracts (2-) 3, ± horizontal, 1-15(-21) cm × 0.4-3.5 mm; rachilla deciduous, wings hyaline, 0.3-0.4 mm wide. Spikelets (3-)8-26, reddish to reddish brown, linear, compressed-quadrangular, 8-18 × (2.4-)2.8-4 mm; floral scales deciduous, 6-16, laterally reddish, medially green, occasionally red-glandular, laterally strongly 3(-4)-ribbed, medially punctate, 1-3-ribbed, ovate-lanceolate, (2.6-)2.8-3.3 × (1.4-)1.6-1.8(-2) mm, apex weakly 3-dentate, mucronulate, with tuft of crystalline prickles, medially glabrous. Flowers: anthers 0.8-1.1 mm; styles 1-1.4 mm; stigmas 1-1.4 mm. Achenes brownish, stipitate, ellipsoid, 1.6-2 × (0.7-)0.9-1 mm, base whitish, stipe to 0.1-0.2 mm, apex obtuse, slightly apiculate, surfaces papillose (Flora of North America).

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION: *C. hypopitys* can be recognized by the combination of reddish floral scales and sharp-angled culms.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

Herbarium mount of holotype: <http://plants.jstor.org/specimen/viewer/mich1109246>.

Line drawing: http://www.efloras.org/object_page.aspx?object_id=42236&flora_id=1.

TOTAL RANGE: Mexico (Chihuahua, Durango, Sinaloa, Sonora) and southern Arizona.

Map: [http://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/taxa/googlemap.php?taxon=Cyperus hypopitys&clid=](http://swbiodiversity.org/seinet/taxa/googlemap.php?taxon=Cyperus_hypopitys&clid=)

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: *C. hypopitys* has been collected from three mountain ranges in southern Arizona: the Santa Rita, the Huachuca and the Chiricahua.

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

GROWTH FORM: Herbaceous, grass-like or rush-like plant with usually solid, round or trigonous shaped flowering stems.

PHENOLOGY: Fruiting late summer – early fall.

BIOLOGY:

HABITAT: Flora of N.A. reports *C. hypopitys* is found in canyons in pine forests, and NatureServe indicates meadows and outcrops in pine-oak forests. Occurrences from Arizona show a preference for pine-oak woodland riparian settings, but collections have also been made on “slopes above the stream” and from a “rocky slope” with western exposure.

ELEVATION: Based on collection records in Arizona, *C. hypopitys* occurs from 5,200 to 7,100 feet (1,600 – 2,185 m).

EXPOSURE: While most frequently associated with canyon riparian situations, the collection from the Santa Rita Mountains was from a western exposure.

SUBSTRATE:

PLANT COMMUNITY: Pine-Oak woodlands, often in or associated with a riparian setting. Other associated species include *Quercus arizonica*, *Q. hypoleucoides*, *Pinus discolor*, *Fraxinus velutina*, *Vitis arizonica*, *Rhus trifoliata*, *Agave palmeri*, *Yucca schottii* and *Arbutus*.

POPULATION HISTORY AND TRENDS:

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None
STATE STATUS: None
OTHER STATUS:

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Conduct additional surveys to determine distribution throughout the Sky Island mountain ranges of southern Arizona. Collect additional information on ecology and habitat.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP: U.S. Forest Service, Coronado National Forest.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION**LITERATURE CITATIONS:**

Flora of North America. Volume 23, p 146 (accessed via www.efloras.org, April 24, 2013).
NatureServe. <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer/index.htm>, accessed May 30, 2013.
Tucker, Gordon C. 1994. Revision of the Mexican species of *Cyperus* (Cyperaceae).
Systematic Botany Monographs 43: 1-213.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Revised: 2013-05-31 (BDT)

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