



Cortaderia selloana

Poaceae
Uruguayan pampas grass



COSE4

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- growth** Robust, tussock grass up to 3.5 m in diameter.
- flower** Flower stalks up to 4m high, with silvery-white to pink flower heads each 1-2 ft long. Female flowers silky with long hairs; the male not hairy, glumes papery and the lemmas each tipped with a long awn.
- leaves** Grayish- or bluish-green, up to 1.8 m long x 10 mm wide; reflexed, tips narrowly tapering, bristle-like. Blade often v-shaped in cross section, margins rough, somewhat cutting (saw toothed); leaves mostly basal to two-thirds of the height of the flowering stalks.
- seeds** Seeds fall from the old inflorescence which then appears white.



flower color

Elevation:
1000-3000 feet

Ecotypes Invaded:
Riparian, desertlands and scrublands.

ECOLOGY & DISTRIBUTION

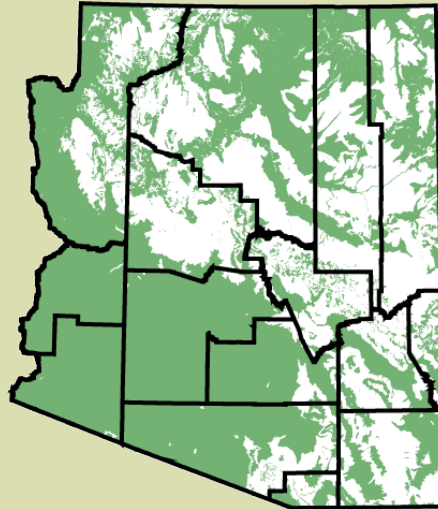
Found in subhumid and semi-arid subtropical regions in open sunny places receiving added moisture.

Can crowd out native plants, impede access to areas, damage grazing lands, and create fire hazards.

Invasive characteristics includes rapid growth, large biomass accumulation, production of numerous seeds, and long distance seed dispersal (up to 20 miles).

Becoming naturalized as a weed in damp places, depressions, along stream banks, the margins of mangrove swamps and, in particular, disturbed areas associated with roads, pipeline cuts and walking trails in forest areas and waste places.

SUITABLE HABITAT



Suitable habitat based on the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (AZ-WIPWG) assessment. Green = suitable habitat; White = unsuitable habitat; Gray = unknown. Based on Brown, Lowe & Pase (1980) vegetation communities.

