

CYPERUS PILOSUS (CYPERACEAE) NEW TO THE FLORA OF TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

Cyperus pilosus is reported new to Texas and a dichotomous key is presented to distinguish it from congeners in that state.

RESUMEN

Cyperus pilosus se cita nuevo para Texas y se presenta una clave dicotómica para diferenciarlo de sus congéneres en el estado.

Cyperus pilosus Vahl is widely distributed in tropical or subtropical areas of the Old World (Kükenthal 1935–1936). It is a common weed of rice in Asia (McGivney 1938; Bryson & Carter 2008) and is known from Hawaii based upon a single historical collection made in 1916 (Wagner et al. 1999). *Cyperus pilosus* was first reported in the continental United States from Louisiana, where it was apparently introduced from Asia as a contaminant of rice seed (O'Neill 1938). Subsequently, it has been reported from Florida (Burkhalter 1985), Mississippi (Bryson & Carter 1992), South Carolina (Tucker et al. 2002), and Georgia (Carter et al. 2009). *Cyperus pilosus* inhabits hydric soils of wet ditches, rice fields, edges of ponds, and wetlands. It has not previously been reported from Texas (Jones et al. 1997; Tucker et al. 2002; Diggs et al. 2006), and the nearest mapped locality is in nearby Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana (Thomas & Allen 1993).

The specific epithet *pilosus* is descriptive of the hispidulous rachis. The species is illustrated in Figure 1. If inserted in the key to *Cyperus* immediately after the first lead of couplet 8 on page 1133 in Diggs et al. (2006), the following couplet will enable the identification of *C. pilosus* in eastern Texas.

8. Plant with elongated slender rhizomes; culm sharply triquetrous, easily compressed _____ **C. pilosus**
8. Plant cespitose, without elongated rhizomes; culm subterete to obtusely trigonous, not easily compressed _____ **continue with couplet 9**

Voucher specimens: **TEXAS. Newton Co.:** Caney Creek Park, S of Hwy. US 190 in Newton, 30° 50' 842"N 93° 45' 802"W, 30 Oct 2008, Allen and Lewis 21096 (VSC), Allen and Lewis 21098 (BRIT, FTK, VSC).

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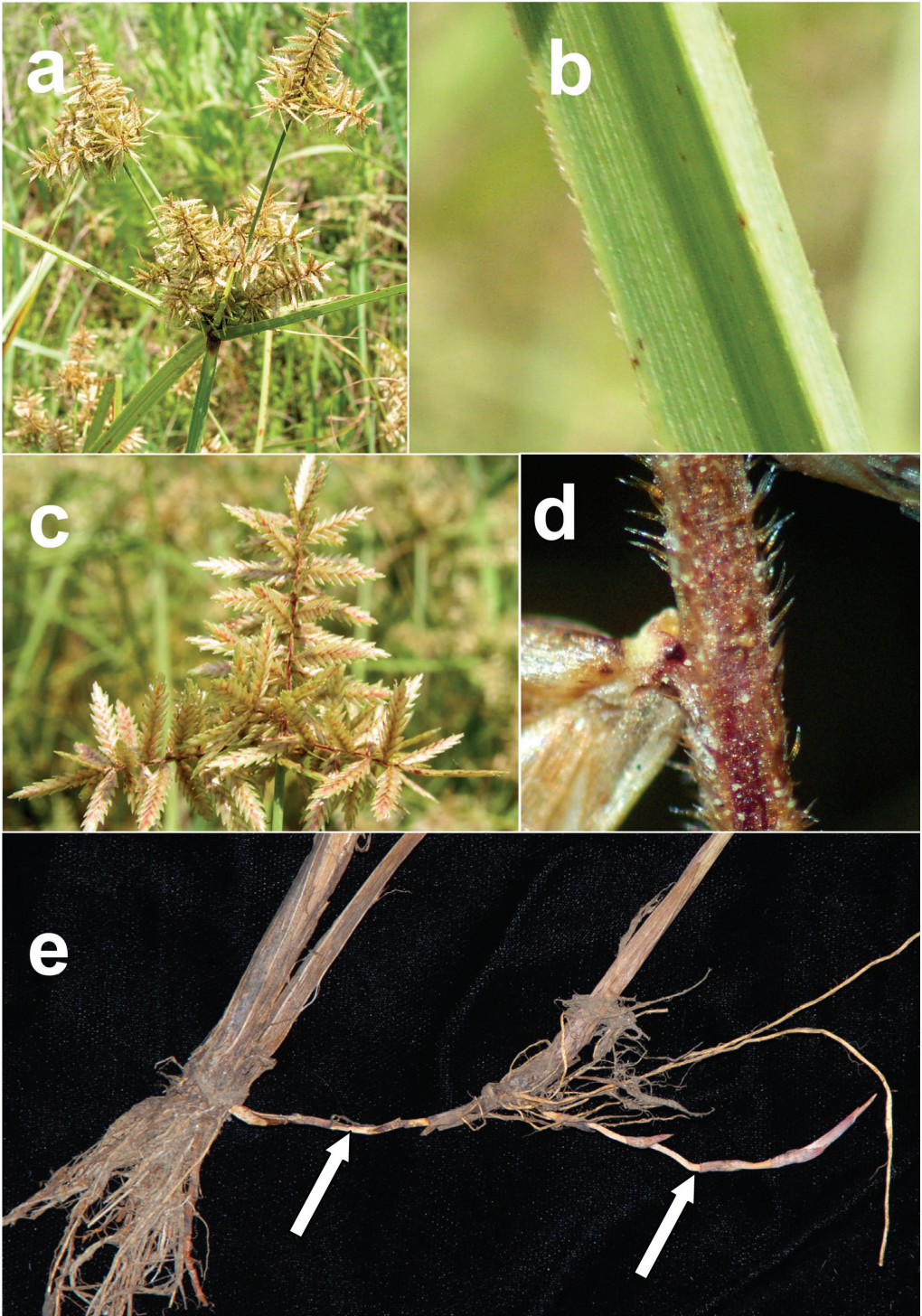


Fig. 1. *Cyperus pilosus*. 1a. Inflorescence habit. 1b. Detail of triquetrous culm showing antrorse prickly hairs on wing-edges. 1c. Inflorescence ray with spikelets. 1d. Hispidulous rachis. 1e. Rhizomes (arrows) and connected bases of culms. Photographs from R. Carter 16081, Bacon County, Georgia.

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