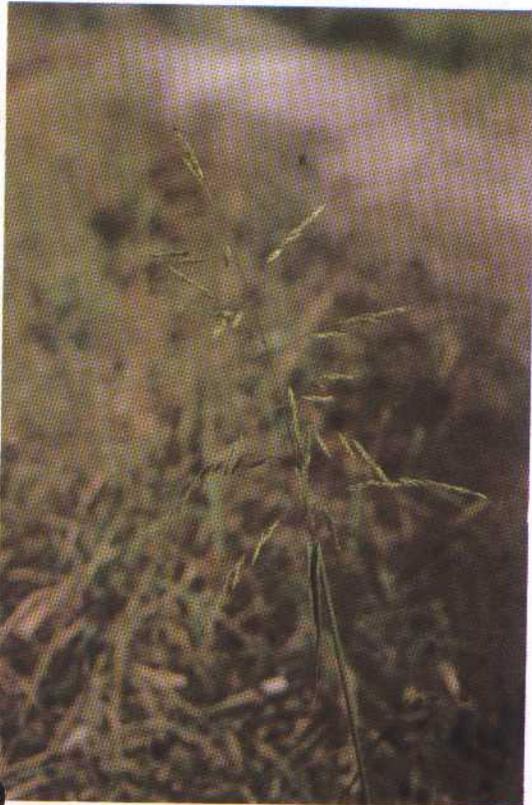


RICE CUT-GRASS  
*Leersia oryzoides*

Located in freshwater swamps, ditches and along streams (forma *glabra* in estuaries) throughout the Division. Also known as False Grass and Rice's-cousin. Colonies of this grass are often so thick and tangled as to make walking difficult, the rough leaves tearing cloth and flesh.

A sprawling perennial grass from slender, elongate, spreading rootstocks. Stems round in cross-section, smooth, stout, branched; to 1.2 m high. Leaves light green, sharply pointed finely saw-toothed on the margins and nerves beneath (forma *glabra* has smooth leaves); 10 to 25 cm long. Flowering stalk with numerous opposite branches; 12 to 23 cm long; branches naked near the stalk, with numerous spikelets near the terminous; blooming from June to October. Seeds similar in appearance to rice.



The seeds are eaten by ducks, swamp and tree sparrows and sora rail; rootstalks eaten by ducks. These plants are also a moderately important food for muskrats.

WP



Peltandra virginica in fruit

Notes: