

# PARA GRASS

Buffalo grass, Mauritius signal grass, Scotch grass, Angola grass, California grass, Cori grass, Dutch grass, Giant couch, Numidian grass, Panicum grass, Water grass

*Urochloa mutica*

Poaceae

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## ECHO® PLANT INFORMATION SHEET

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### Description

*Urochloa mutica*, commonly known as **para grass**, **buffalo grass**, **Mauritius signal grass**, **pasto pare**, **malojilla**, **gramalote**, **parana**, **Carib grass**, and **Scotch grass**, is a species of [grass](#). Despite its common name of **California grass**, it does not occur in [California](#); it is native to northern and central Africa and parts of the Middle East, where it is cultivated for [fodder](#). It was [introduced](#) elsewhere and it is now cultivated throughout tropical regions of the world for this purpose.

Para grass is a vigorous, semi-prostrate perennial grass with creeping stolons which can grow up to 5 metres (16 ft) long. The stems have hairy nodes and leaf sheaths and the leaf blades are up to 2 centimetres (0.8 in) wide and 30 centimetres (12 in) long. It roots at the nodes and detached pieces of the plant will easily take root in moist ground. The flower-head is a loose [panicle](#) up to 30 centimetres (12 in) long with spreading branches. The paired [spikelets](#) are arranged in uneven rows and are elliptical and 2.5 to 5 millimetres (0.1 to 0.2 in) long. The [rachis](#) is tinged with purple. Although many flower-heads grow, only a few viable seeds are produced, and propagation is usually by vegetative means.<sup>[1][3][5][6]</sup> Para grass can be distinguished from the closely related tanner grass (*Brachiaria arrecta*) by its paired spikelets, tanner grass having single spikelets.

[-- Wikipedia](#)

### Uses

Para grass is mainly cultivated to feed livestock as it makes a high quality forage for ruminant animals.

### References

Synonym : (*Brachiaria mutica*)

ECHO Asia SFRC