

WANTED

BUSH BEARDGRASS

CALL 286-4616



WHAT IS IT?

- Bush beardgrass (*Schizachyrium condensatum*) is an invasive bunchgrass from tropical and subtropical America.
- It grows along roadsides and in disturbed areas. In residential areas, it hides among other lawn grasses.
- When growing unchecked, it forms dense clumps that produce large tufted seed heads and reach up to 3 feet in height.
- When constantly mowed, it can still flourish and produce seeds when only a few inches tall.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- Bush beardgrass fuels brush fires and grows in both dry and wet areas.
- On O'ahu, it occurs only in 'Āhuimanu and along H-3; however, it has taken over large areas of forest and grassland on the Big Island and Kaua'i.
- If not constantly controlled, the grass may move to the drier leeward parts of O'ahu, increasing the intensity and frequency of wildfires.
- Each plant can produce millions of seeds that are spread by wind, animals, vehicles, and people.

WHO IS OISC?

- The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) is a multi-sector partnership protecting O'ahu from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- OISC focuses on species that are not widely established and can still be controlled or eradicated.
- OISC partners include the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Honolulu Board of Water Supply and other municipal, state and federal agencies.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Allow the OISC field crew on your property to survey for bush beardgrass. According to Hawai'i state law, landowners are not liable for workers surveying for or removing invasive species.
- Report all sightings to 286-4616. Your information is important to us.
- Please do not plant, import or sell bush beard grass.
- If found, do not throw plants away! Call OISC for proper disposal.
- Stop the spread of seeds, wash boots after each hike.



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