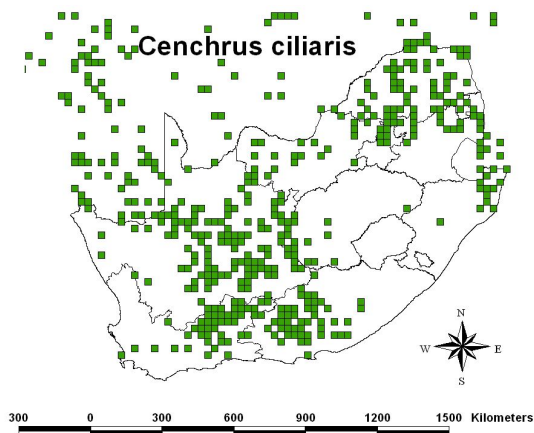


# *Cenchrus ciliaris*

Common name: buffalo grass, buffel grass, malopo blue buffel-grass, buffelsgras, bloubuffelgras,

Family: Poaceae

Habitat: Widespread and found in all soil types but prefers sandy, well drained soils. In most arid areas it is restricted to drainage lines.



Map based on PRECIS data from <http://sibis.sanbi.org/>.

Plant description: Grass up to 0.7 m, leaves light green, blades 4-8 mm wide, culms branched giving the plant a shrubby appearance.

Palatability: ★★★★★ high for large grazers,  
★★ moderate to low for sheep

Seed description: Seeds are covered by straw coloured, spiked inflorescences. Spikelets are covered in wavy bristles. Supplied unhusked.

Viable seeds per kg: 27,552

When and how to plant: Sept-Feb. Roughen soil with a spade or implement. Mix seed with equal quantity of chaff or sawdust. To obtain even coverage, measure area to be sown into quarter hectare blocks (100 m x 25 m or 50 m x 50 m) and sow 1 kg of seed (2 kg of seed-chaff mix) onto each quarter hectare. Roll or trample the sown area to press the seed firmly onto the soil or rake the sown area with a rake or thorn branch. Cover the whole of the sown area with thorn branches to protect seedlings from livestock or game.



Scale: 1cm



Scale: 1 decimeter

## References

PRECIS data on southern African plant distributions and taxonomy <http://sibis.sanbi.org/faces/SearchSpecies/>

Van Oudtshoorn, F., 2006. Guide to grasses of Southern Africa. Briza Publications. Pretoria.

Renu-Karoo unpublished data