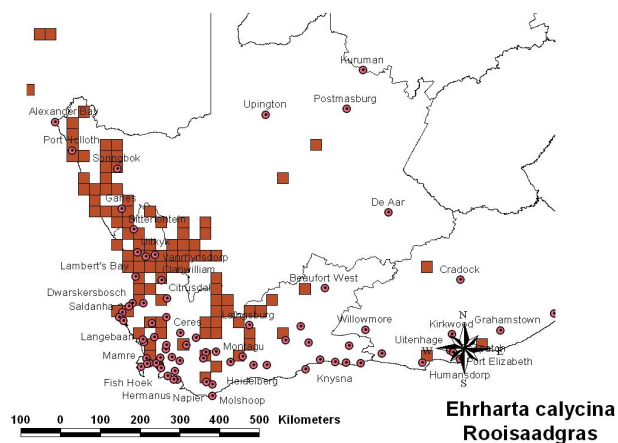


Ehrharta calycina

Common name: rooisaadgras,

Family: Poaceae

Habitat: Widespread on sandy and loamy soils in winter to autumn rainfall areas of the Western and Northern Cape.



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

Plant description: Stemmy green grass, leaves 2-4 mm wide, tender. Matures and seeds in 1 year.

Palatability: ★★★★★ high

Seed description: Seeds are enclosed in flattened pink spikelets.

Viable seeds per kg: 226,987

Seed mass recommended per hectare: 4-6 kg

When and how to plant: Germinates only in cool wet weather. Sow autumn though winter (May-August) 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 1.5 kg of seed (3 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 or fence game and livestock out.**



The photo above shows *Ehrharta calycina* in renosterveld near Ladismith



Scale: 1cm

Detail of seed heads from <http://www.plantzafrica.com/plantefg/ehrhartacaly.htm>

References

<http://www.plantzafrica.com/plantefg/ehrhartacaly.htm>

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Renu-Karoo unpublished data