

Rule Change Proposal - 5

Purpose: To correct the improper assignment of pure seed unit definition for *Eremochloa ophiuroides* (centipede grass).

Present rule:

Table 2.4 Weights for working samples.

Pure Seed Unit #	Kind of seed	Minimum weight for purity analysis ^a	Minimum weight for noxious-weed seed or bulk examination	Approximate number of seeds per gram ^b	Approximate number of seeds per ounce ^c
		Grams	Grams	Number	Number
12	<i>Eremochloa ophiuroides</i> (Munro) Hack. centipedegrass	2	20	1,253	35,530

Table 3A. Pure seed unit definitions

PSU Number	Description of Pure Seed Unit
12	<p>Single floret, with or without awn, provided a caryopsis with some degree of endosperm development can be detected (either by slight pressure or by examination over light).</p> <p>Caryopsis or piece of broken caryopsis larger than one-half of the original size.</p> <p>Special consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fertile floret attached to another fertile floret shall be separated. • Attached glumes and empty florets shall be removed and classified as inert matter.

Proposed Rule:

Table 2.4 Weights for working samples.

Pure Seed Unit #	Kind of seed	Minimum weight for purity analysis ^a	Minimum weight for noxious-weed seed or bulk examination	Approximate number of seeds per gram ^b	Approximate number of seeds per ounce ^c
		Grams	Grams	Number	Number
15	<i>Eremochloa ophiuroides</i> (Munro) Hack. centipedegrass	2	20	1,253	35,530

Table 3A. Pure seed unit definitions

PSU Number	Description of Pure Seed Unit
15	<p>Spikelet with or without attached rachis segment (also see rame internode in glossary), pedicel and sterile spikelet, with or without awn(s), provided a caryopsis with some degree of endosperm development can be detected (either by light pressure or by examination over light).</p> <p>Caryopsis or piece of broken caryopsis larger than one-half of the original size.</p>

APPENDIX 4: Glossary of Terms for Pure Seed Units

Rame: A disarticulating inflorescence branch that forms the basic unit of a typical Andropogoneae inflorescence. [Refer to Barkworth, M. E., K. M. Capels, S. Long, and M. B. Piep. 2003. Flora of North America, Volume 25, Magnoliophyta: Commelinidae (in part): Poaceae, part 2. Oxford University Press. 783 pp.]

Rame internode: A segment of an inflorescence branch in the Andropogoneae. Note: the dispersal unit consists of a spikelet pair and a rame internode that extends from the sessile spikelet to the next most distal sessile spikelet. See rame.)

Harmonization and impact statement: This species is not covered by the Federal Seed Act, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency Methods and Procedures for Testing Seeds, or the International Seed Testing Association Rules for Seed Testing.

Supporting evidence: In *Eremochloa ophiuroides* the inflorescence branch usually disarticulates between sets of spikelet pairs at the rame nodes. Within the spikelet pair the sessile spikelet contains one staminate and one bisexual floret, while the pedicellate spikelet consists of a thick, flat pedicel and a rudimentary (or absent) spikelet. The sessile spikelet has two glumes, the lower being larger than the upper and both conceal the florets. This species is typically marketed as hulled caryopses, however the proposed seed unit will also accommodate instances in which the caryopses are not hulled.

The term rame internode is utilized in the treatment of members of the Andropogoneae provided in Barkworth, et al. (2003) and is equivalent to the term rachis segment as applied in the pure seed unit description #15.

Reference

Barkworth, M. E., K. M. Capels, S. Long, and M. B. Piep. 2003. Flora of North America, Volume 25, Magnoliophyta: Commelinidae (in part): Poaceae, part 2. Oxford University Press. 783 pp.

Submitted by: Deborah Meyer, Purity Subcommittee Chair, California Department of Food and Agriculture, (916) 262-1137, dmeyer@cdfa.ca.gov.

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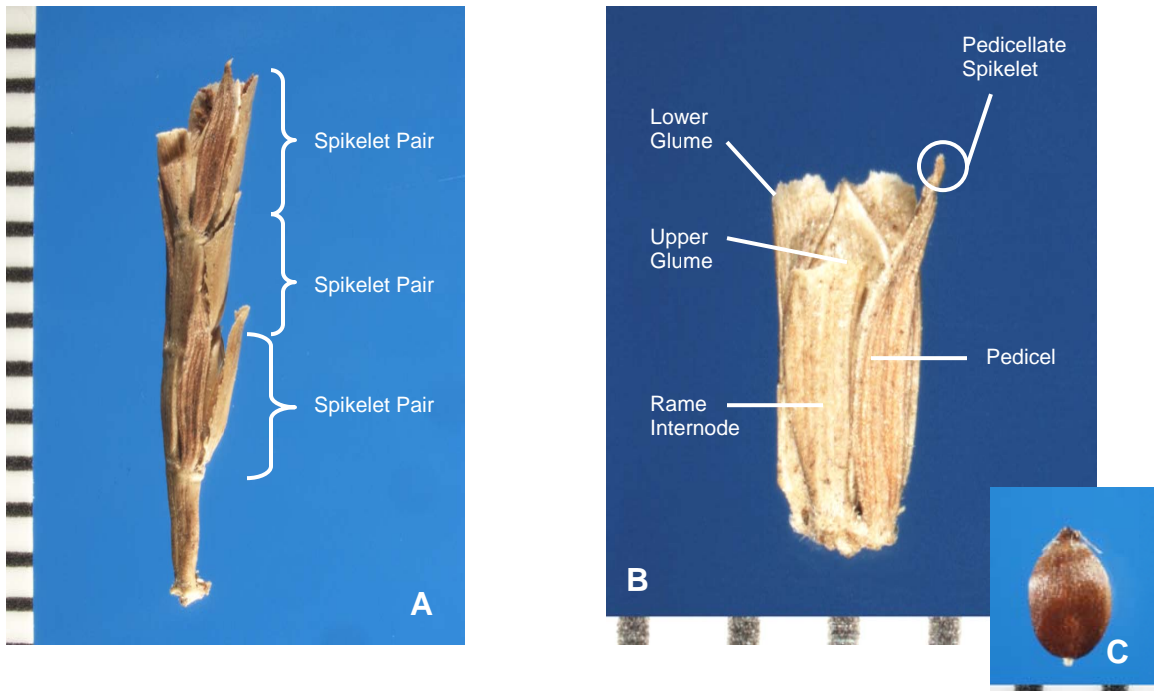


Figure 1. Structures of *Eremochloa ophiuroides* (centipede grass); A – spikelet pairs at each node of the rame; B – one spikelet pair consisting of one sessile spikelet, one pedicellate spikelet, and attached rame internode; C – caryopsis.