

**Lolium rigidum*

ANNUAL RYE GRASS, WIMMERA RYE GRASS

Gaudin.

Flowering period: September–November.

Description: Annual grass 30 cm–80 cm high. Leaves glossy, 10–20 cm long, 3–5 mm wide, erect to lax. Flower spikes erect to 30 cm tall with two to 19 individual spikelets arranged alternately along the rachis. Flowers small, indistinct.

Distribution: Found throughout the south-west land division from coastal islands to inland regions and across a wide variety of soil types, though favours sandy soils.

Control methods: Grass selective herbicides or general herbicides or manual removal (latter requires follow-up control until native plant cover prevents weed establishment). The genus is noted for its ability to develop herbicide-resistant races, so care is needed to ensure complete plant death following herbicide application.

Notes: Native to southern Europe and southern Asia and now widely naturalised in many parts of the world. Can be troublesome in coastal restoration but usually only in tertiary dunes that are well back from the coast. A species with a highly invasive fine root system that can quickly establish once restoration greenstock has been planted.



Habit



Spike



Habit



Distribution