

Yellow nut sedge

Cyperus esculentus

Minnesota C-Value: 0
Wetland Indicator Status: FACW
Non-native



Compressed spikes



White-green sheath

Leaves: Light green with prominent midveins. Mostly basal and as long as the stems. Up to 1.5 ft long and 5-8 mm wide. Bracts usually longer than the spikes. Sheaths are whitish green.

Stems: Erect triangular stems 0.5-2.5 ft tall. Smooth and waxy. Forms round, ridged white tubers underground that turn brown or black in color.

Flowers and fruit: Golden cluster of loose cylindrical spikes at the tip of each stem. Each spike is 2-3 in. long and 1-1.5 in. wide and comprised of small linear spikelets that are perpendicular to the stem. Scales 2-3 mm long, slightly keeled. Achene 3-angled.

Plant communities: Sandy or muddy shores of streambanks, marshes, ditches, wet fallow fields.

Comments: Non-native perennial. Other *Cyperus* species lack tubers and differ in length of scale (longer or shorter) and shape (awn-tipped or curved).