NEW TO OKLAHOMA: *LEPTOCHLOA PANICOIDES* (POACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

This paper documents the occurrence of a vascular plant species previously unknown to the flora of Oklahoma. *Leptochloa panicoides* (J. Presl) Hitchc., a grass of the tribe Eragrostideae, was discovered in wetland habitats in Le Flore and McCurtain counties in southeastern Oklahoma.

**KEY WORDS:** *Leptochloa panicoides*, Poaceae, Eragrostideae, Oklahoma

*Leptochloa panicoides* (J. Presl) Hitchc. (Poaceae, Eragrostideae; Amazon sprangletop) is an annual grass found in bottomlands, ditches, and other moist disturbed areas (Yatskievych 1999). In the USA it has been reported from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, Virginia, and the neighboring states of Arkansas, Missouri, and Texas (Kartesz 2011; USDA, NRCS 2011). Once considered to be a Brazilian introduction, the taxa is now treated as a native (Snow 2003). The first Oklahoma collections (RS-189 and RS-248) were found at the margin of a man-made lake in McCurtain County. Associated species included *Thalia dealbata* and *Sagittaria montevidensis*. A second population (NWCA11-5918-5) was found in a wetland in Le Flore County. Associated species included *Carex crus-corvi* and *Salix nigra*. These three collections are the first reports of the species in the state of Oklahoma (Hoagland et al. 2011).


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LITERATURE CITED


Figure 1. *Leptochloa panicoides* from Le Flore County, Oklahoma.