

# Spartina anglica

## COMMON NAME

spartina hybrid, cordgrass

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Spartina anglica* C.E.Hubb.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## NVS CODE

SPAANG

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Aquatic: Emergent. Estuaries, mangroves and other intertidal areas with soft sediment.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stiff perennial grass 50–100 cm tall with fleshy rhizomes, forming large dense clumps or swards. **Leaf-blades** 5–40cm × 5–12 mm flat or inrolled, hairless and narrowed to fine hard tip. **Culm** erect, 5–8 mm diameter at base, including closely ensheathing leaves. **Inflorescence** 10–30 cm, erect.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Spartina anglica* can be distinguished from *S. alterniflora* by its smaller stem size (5–8 mm) cf *S. alterniflora* stem 8–30 mm, and from *S. xtownsendii* by the presence of fertile seed (seed is aborted in *S. xtownsendii*)

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Reproduces from seed and rhizome spreading and fragments. Seed is dispersed by wind and water. Livestock, propellers nets etc dislodge rhizome fragments, tidal and current movement, intentional planting. Rhizomes can survive long time at sea, moves long distances.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1981

## ORIGIN

England

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural

## TOLERANCES

Tolerates very saline conditions. Can survive burying.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/spartina-anglica/>



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