

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Monanthochloe littoralis - saltflat-grass Grass Family (Poaceae)

Rarity Rank: S1/G4G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure

Range: CA, FL, LA, TX (also Mexico and Cuba)

Recognition:

- A grayish-green, perennial, low-growing grass forming extensive colonies
- Leaves short, less than 1 cm long, born in remotely spaced fascicles (clusters) on the stem

Flowering Time: March to July

Light Requirement: Full sun

Wetland Indicator Status:

OBL – almost always occurs in wetlands

Habitat:

Coastal saline mud flats and salt marshes on bay shores and behind beaches.

Threats:

- Shoreline erosion and subsidence
- Hydrological alterations (e.g. canal dredging)
- Contamination by chemicals or industrial discharge

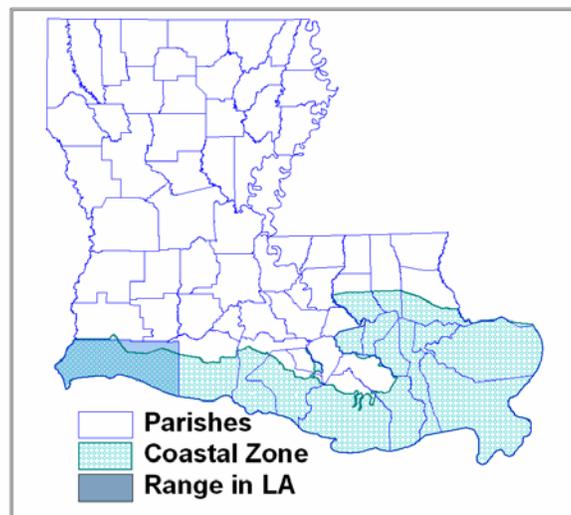
Beneficial Management Practices:

Protect bay shores and Gulf Beaches against erosion

LA River Basins: Mermentau, Calcasieu, Sabine



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Left: Thick mat of *Monanthochloe littoralis* at East Cameron Jetty, Cameron Parish.

Right: *Monanthochloe littoralis* habitat. Saline mud flat behind beach at East Cameron Jetty, Cameron Parish. Associates include glassworts (*Salicornia* spp.), salt wort (*Batis maritima*), sea blite (*Suaeda linearis*), and sea lavneder (*Limonium carolinianum*)



References:

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- Tiner, R. W. 1993. Field guide to coastal wetland plants of the southeastern United States. The University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst. 328 pp.
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For more information, please visit our Web pages at

<http://www.wlf.la.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program> or 225-765-2811

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