



## *AMPHIBROMUS WHITEI*

A tufted annual up to 35 cm high. *Culms* erect or slightly decumbent, slender, unbranched, smooth, without hairs. *Nodes* 3, smooth, slightly constricted and pigmented. *Leaves* mainly basal, few on the culms, green to blue-green. *Leaf sheaths* close, striate, shorter than the internodes, slightly rough, persisting and becoming fibrous at the base. *Ligule* thinly membranous, pointed at the centre, up to 8 mm long. *Leaf blades* long and narrow, up to 15 cm long and 1.8 mm wide, flat, gradually tapering to a fine point, slightly rough downwards.

*Inflorescence* a narrow, lax panicle up to 10 cm long and 1.5 cm wide, flexuous, pale green, the branches slender, angular, scabrid. *Spikelets* (S) few on the branches, shortly pedicellate, all similar, 7–10 mm long, at maturity breaking up above the persistent glumes. *Florets* 4–5, all bisexual. *Glumes* (G<sub>1</sub>, G<sub>2</sub>) papery-membranous, broad; the lower glume (G<sub>1</sub>) 2–2.3 mm long, 1-nerved; the upper (G<sub>2</sub>) slightly longer, 2.5–3 mm long, shortly 3-nerved. *Lemmas* (L) 4–4.5 mm long (excluding awn), 7-nerved, fairly rigid, rounded on the back, which is covered with short spines, bifid at the tip from above the attachment of a long, twisted, kneed awn from above the middle of the back. *Palea* (P) slightly shorter than the lemma, narrow, 2-nerved and 2-keeled, the keels extended into 2 thinly membranous wings, the margin with hairs on the upper part. *Anthers* 1–3, 0.3–0.5 mm long, cream-yellow; when 3 anthers are present, one is normal-sized and the others reduced and without pollen, possibly cleistogamous.

The grass is not of common occurrence. It has been recorded from the margins of a freshwater swamp in the Maranoa district of southern-central Queensland.

### REFERENCES

Hubbard (1941), pp. 30-31.

### KEY TO SPECIES

This is the only species occurring in southern Queensland. The remainder of the genus is southern in distribution.