Barnyard grass
Echinochloa crus-galli

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

Leaves: Long, flat leaves, 1-2 cm wide. Smooth compressed sheath, ligule absent. Margins slightly hairy.

Stems: 2.5-4.5 ft tall. Sometimes branching with purplish hue at the base.

Flowers and fruit: The panicle, 8-25 cm in length, has densely flowered spreading branches. Spikelets 3-4 mm long on 2-5 cm long branches, commonly green or reddish-purple with bristles on outer scales; length of awns on spikelets variable.

Plant communities: Wet meadows, seasonally flooded basins, and disturbed sites.

Comments: Also known as wild millet, this grass is a non-native annual from Europe. Often germinates on mudflats following a draw-down. *Echinochloa muricata* (a wetland obligate) is a native annual grass similar in appearance and habitat, but has differences in flower that are best distinguished with the use of a hand lens.