

# A NEW CYPERUS FROM THE TRANSVAAL.

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## *Cyperus Thorncroftii*, McClean, n. sp.

*Planta* glabra. *Stolones* 0. *Culmi* 15–23 cm. longi, caespitiosi, basi vaginis senicibus incrassati, teretes vel sub-compressi, costati, glomerulis parvis rhizomate brevi confertis. *Folia* culmis subequales, viridia, setacea, marginibus involutis et sparse scabridis, glabra; vaginae rufo-fuscae, scariosae, costatae, marginibus hyalinis. *Bracteae* 2, foliis consimiles; inferior ad 13 cm. longa. *Inflorescentia* umbellata. *Spiculae* 6–35, sessiles, 1–2.5 cm. longae, 3 mm. latae, lineares, fuscae; glumae ad 50, imbricatae, tandem patentes, naviculares, oblongae, basi truncatae, apice orbiculatae et minute bilobatae, carinis pallidis prominentibus in brevi acuto mucro productis. *Rhachilla* compressa flexuosa, non alata, marginibus crassis. *Stylus* nucem subequalis; rami nuce longiores. *Nux*  $\frac{1}{2}$ – $\frac{1}{3}$  parte glumae aequilonga, trigona, obovoidea, fusca.

TRANSVAAL: Barberton district, *G. Thorncroft* 39, and in *National Herb.* 2889.

Belongs to sub-genus *Pycnostachys*—comes nearest to *C. parvinux* C.B.Cl. (ex descr.), but differs from this species in the size of the bracts, in the number and size of the spikelets, and in the shape of the glumes and in other minor characters.

This plant was submitted for report to Dr. S. Schönland, who thought it an undescribed species, and this view was subsequently confirmed by Kew.



*Cyperus Thorneroftii* McClean.

K. A. Lansdell.

Plant reduced to two-thirds; A, young spikelet  $\times 4$  (in right-hand figure spikelet more mature and showing glumes opening out); B, and C glumes; D, flower.