

**Vascular Plants in Williamson County**  
*Eragrostis pilosa* var. *pilosa* – INDIA LOVEGRASS [Poaceae]

*Eragrostis pilosa* (L.) P. Beauv. var. *pilosa*, INDIA LOVEGRASS. Annual, fibrous-rooted, not rosetted, many-stemmed at base, cespitose (appearing dense when several plants grow together, branches ascending, in range < 35 cm tall; shoots with basal leaves and cauline leaves. **Stems:** cylindric, < 2 mm diameter, glossy, striped, glabrous, nodes sometimes with band of yellow-green glands below certain nodes. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath; prophyll knife-shaped and 2-keeled with 2 folded margins along 2 green veins, to 5 mm long, minutely ciliate along keels; sheath open, rounded on back drying with veins somewhat raised, with membranous margins, short-ciliate on margins, conspicuously pilose-hirsute at top and with inconspicuous microhairs, with a ring of hairs to 3 mm long at top; ligule ciliate, 0.1–0.9 mm long; blade long-acuminate, 25–90+ × 1–4.8 mm, flat, minutely bumpy on margin, parallel-veined slightly raised on both surfaces, hairs to 4 mm long near leaf base and sometimes on margins. **Inflorescence:** spikelets, in paniclelike array, with 4–12(–18) bisexual florets conspicuously alternate distichous, bracteate, essentially glabrous with hairs absent but white collar of flag leaf pilose-hirsute, gland at base of the lowest node and typically absent above (sometimes minute, dotlike glands; gland subtending the lowest node having a broad glandular band, at the lowest node appearing whorled; axes ridged, principal branches and branchlets ascending-spreading, with an axillary pulvinus, ridges minutely scabrous, axes with terminal spikelet not scabrous. **Spikelet:** before flowering narrowly ovate to linear in outline, during flowering in range to 13 × 0.9–1.3 × 0.5 mm, membranous with green stripes (veins), glabrous, on rachilla lemma spaced 1.1–1.4 mm long, at maturity lemma with fruit abscised and later palea abscised; **glumes** 2, unequal, lower glume obtuse-ovate, 0.3–0.8 mm long lacking veins, upper glume acute-ovate and minutely keeled, 1–1.2 mm long, with green midvein minutely scabrous; **lemma** obovate cupped from midvein, 1.2–1.8 mm long, blushed purplish red near tip with 3 raised, acute at tip, green veins and midvein minutely scabrous above midpoint, lateral veins not converging at tip and not scabrous, with microhairs outside the lateral veins and above midpoint; **palea** strongly 2-folded along veins, appearing obtuse-obovate, 1–1.6 mm long, colorless with 2 green veins, minutely scabrous above midpoint and minutely jagged at tip. **Flower:** bisexual; **perianth (lodicules)** fan-shaped (not bulbous), ca. 0.3 mm long, colorless; **stamens** 3, free; filaments ca. 0.6 mm long, colorless; anthers ± basifixed, dithecal, 0.3 mm long, purplish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen colorless; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, obovoid, ca. 0.5 mm long, pale green, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; styles 2, widely separated at top of ovary, bottlebrushlike above midpoint, 0.7 mm long, colorless. **Fruit:** achene (caryopsis), abscised with lemma, obovoid, 0.7–1 mm long, light brown, faintly striated below midpoint and mostly smooth.

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