

Tufted perennial; culms 10-65cm high, erect or rarely geniculately ascending, clothed at the base with the hardened remains of old leaf-sheaths forming a bulbous swelling. Leaf-blades folded, mostly basal, 3-12cm long, 1.5-2.5mm wide, abruptly tapered at the tip, scabrid on the margins and upper surface; ligule pointed, 2-4mm long. Panicle oblong or elliptic, (3-)6-13cm long, dense; branches 2-4 at the lower nodes, scaberulous. Spikelets 4-7-flowered, oblong-elliptic, 6-8mm long; glumes unequal, elliptic, the lower 3-4mm long, 3-nerved, the upper broader, 3.5-4.5mm long, 3-nerved; lemmas oblong in side-view, 3.5-5 mm long, obtuse, ciliate on the keel and marginal nerves, without any wool at the base (or rarely just 1 or 2 strands); palea a little shorter than the lemma, scabrid along the keels; anthers 1.5-2.5mm long.