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# A New Hawaiian Panicum (Gramineae)

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#### **Panicum Carteri,** spec. nov. (fig. 1).

Planta annua 8-25 cm. alta ramosa ad basim, culmis appressi-puberulentis, vaginis puberulentis, laminis 3-8 cm. longis, 1-4 mm. latis, pubescentis, planibus vel marginibus incurvatis, spiculis 1.8-2 mm. longis ellipticis pilosis.

Plants annual, 8 to 25 cm. tall, forming small clumps, culms freely branching, ascending from a decumbent base, sub-appressed, slender puberulent; sheaths slender puberulent, strongly veined, shorter than the internodes, base of young sheaths pinkish; ligule a densely ciliated membrane, the hairs 0.4 to 0.7 mm. long; blades ascending or spreading, 3 to 8 cm. long, 1 to 4 mm. wide, flat, linear-lanceolate, firm, usually involute when mature, appressed, slender puberulent beneath, appressed-pilosulous on the upper surface; inflorescence a panicle, short-exserted, 2 to 4 cm. long, the lateral branches ascending or appressed to the axis, straw colored, the axis and branches angled, stiff, pilosulous with ascending hairs; spikelets 1.8 to 2 mm. long, 0.5 to 0.8 mm. wide, pubescent, lance-ovoid, glumes elliptic-ovate or broadly lanceolate, acute; first glume slightly longer than the second glume, green, prominently 3-nerved with 2 additional weak nerves, midrib heavy, pilosulous with ascending hairs 0.2 mm. or less in length, the upper half with more hairs than the lower half, the sides and margin subhyaline; second glume glabrous to sparsely slender puberulent, 7-nerved, green, the margins hyaline; sterile lemma slightly shorter than the second glume, faintly 7-nerved, glabrous, subacute at apex; fertile lemma about 1.1 mm. long, polished and shining, straw colored, cartilaginous; palea enfolded, cartilaginous; grains 1 mm. long, elliptic, flesh colored.

Type: Mokolii Islet, Edward Y. Hosaka and Mitsugi Maneki 2611, in Bishop Museum.

**Distribution:** known only from the type locality.

Oahu, Mokolii Islet, off coast of Oahu: rocky ledge on north end of islet, alt. 10 ft., rare, Nov. 6, 1941, *Hosaka and Maneki 2611*;

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rock ledges, alt. 12 ft., Jan. 31, 1937, F. R. Fosberg and V. Fosberg 13593; sea shore, April 21, 1917, J. F. Rock 12766.

Endemic species of *Panicum* are found in the Hawaiian islands from the dry lowlands to the wet bogs on the summits of high cloudblanketed mountains. *Panicum Carteri* is most closely related to

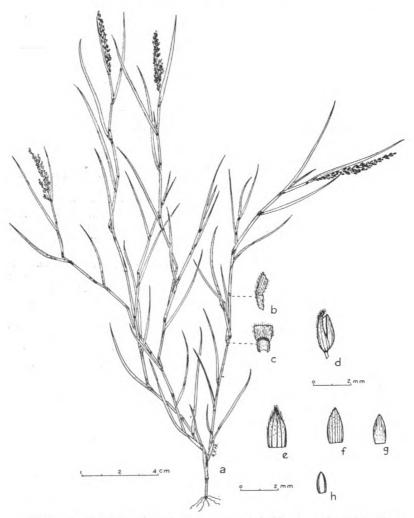


FIGURE 1.—*Panicum Carteri*, spec. nov.: **a**, habit; **b**, node enlarged; **c**, ligule enlarged; **d**, spikelet; **e**, first glume, dorsal view; **f**, second glume, dorsal view; **g**, sterile lemma, dorsal view; **h**, floret.



*Panicum Faurici* Hitchcock, but it can be distinguished easily from that species. *Panicum Carteri* has publicent spikelets which are 1.8 to 2 mm. long, whereas *Panicum Faurici* has glabrous spikelets that are 1.4 to 1.8 mm. long.

On my visit to Mokolii Islet, I found 12 individual plants growing on a rocky ledge, which the salt spray drenches frequently. One clump, found in a sheltered part on the lee of a large boulder, was much larger than those growing in the open. I combed the islet quite carefully but failed to find another patch. It seems that this plant is making its new stand here.

This new species is named for Mr. Alfred W. Carter, who has introduced many excellent pasture grasses and legumes into the Territory in the development of the ranching industry.

The author is responsible for all statements in this paper.

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