



### Look-alikes

Native plants can often be confused with weed species. The following information aims to assist you with accurate identification to prevent the loss of our declining natives. If you are unsure what species you are dealing with, take advantage of the identification services on offer from your local weeds officer (either at your local council or the ACT's Parks, Conservation and Lands) before carrying out any controls.

The most similar grasses to the robust tussock form of African lovegrass are **'river' or 'silver' tussock** (*Poa labillardieri*), the broader leaved *Poa ensiformis* and **'snowgrass' or poa 'tussock'** (*Poa sieberiana*), which all differ in having the young seed heads purple tinged.

Jackie Miles/Max Campbell



Native: 'river' or 'silver' tussock

Jackie Miles/Max Campbell



Native: river tussock

The weedy **Parramatta grass** (*Sporobolus africanus*) looks similar to the open, low-growing form. It has similar blue-green, hairless glossy leaves, a spreading growth habit, and the seed heads are black or grey in colour. However, they are a narrow spike, without spreading branches.

Jackie Miles/Max Campbell



Weed: Parramatta grass

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Weed: Parramatta grass

There are many native lovegrasses, some of which look a little similar. One such species is *Eragrostis parviflora*. It has long nodding seed heads that are more delicate but are also black or leaden grey in colour. It is usually a smaller plant. **Paddock lovegrass** (*Eragrostis leptostachya*) is a very common pasture plant that has a similar low-growing habit, with blue-green leaves, but the seed heads have short branches which stand out at right angles or even point backwards slightly from the main stem.

Jackie Miles/Max Campbell



Native: paddock lovegrass

### Control methods

For advice on what time of year to implement the following management options, see the Molonglo Catchment Weed Control Calendar. Seek advice on chemical application from your Council Weeds Officer or local 'bush friendly' nursery. Always use chemicals as directed on the label.

Dig out and destroy seed heads, or spot spray. Plant sets seed from October to May. Once a dense infestation has developed, cultivation and establishment of a vigorous perennial pasture, via direct seeding, may be needed. Do not graze in the first year, and remove any African lovegrass seedlings that appear. Manage grazing intensity to maintain pasture vigour to out-compete lovegrass seedlings.

Due to the persistent nature of this weed it is advised that you contact your local weeds officer for detailed control advice.