



# GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Sansevieria hyacinthoides*

## *Sansevieria hyacinthoides*

**System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Liliopsida	Liliales	Liliaceae

**Common name** African bowstring hemp (English), bowstring hemp (English), iguanatail (English)

**Synonym** *Cordyline guineensis*, (L.) Britt.  
*Sansevieria metallica*, Horton ex Gerome & Labroy  
*Sansevieria thyrsoiflora*, Thunb.  
*Sansevieria guineensis*, (L.) Willd.  
*Cordyline guineensis*, (L.) Britton

### Similar species

**Summary** *Sansevieria hyacinthoides* is an extremely durable, and tough rhizomatous perennial. *S. hyacinthoides* has escaped in Florida, where it is listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council as a Category II invasive exotic. On the Cayman Islands where it is introduced forms a dense groundcover which can inhibit native herbaceous species.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

### Management Info

**Preventative measures:** A [Risk Assessment of \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* for Florida](#) in the USA returned a high score of 14 with a recommendation to 'reject' the plant for import. *S. hyacinthoides* have escaped in Florida, where it is listed by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council as a Category II invasive exotic.

### Principal source:

**Compiler:** IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

### Review:

**Publication date:** 2010-11-10

### ALIEN RANGE

[1] ANGUILLA  
[1] PUERTO RICO  
[1] UNITED STATES

[1] CAYMAN ISLANDS  
[1] SAINT LUCIA

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

6 references found for *Sansevieria hyacinthoides*

#### Management information

[Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2010. \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* Prain. Asparagaceae](#)

**Summary:** Available from: [http://www.hear.org/wra/tncflwra/pdfs/tncflwra\\_sansevieria\\_hyacinthoides\\_ism.pdf](http://www.hear.org/wra/tncflwra/pdfs/tncflwra_sansevieria_hyacinthoides_ism.pdf) [Accessed 5 October 2010]—

Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2026. Species profile *Sansevieria hyacinthoides*. Available from: <https://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1798> [Accessed 10 June 2026]



# GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Sansevieria hyacinthoides*

---

[Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2010. Risk Assessment: \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* Prain, Asparagaceae](#)

**Summary:** Available from: [http://166.122.60.44/Pier/species/sansevieria\\_hyacinthoides.htm](http://166.122.60.44/Pier/species/sansevieria_hyacinthoides.htm) [Accessed 5 October 2010]

## General information

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System \(ITIS\), 2010. \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* \(L.\) Druce](#)

**Summary:** Available from: [http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search\\_topic=TSN&search\\_value=505007](http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=505007) [Accessed 5 October 2010]

[USDA, ARS, 2010. Taxon: \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* \(L.\) Druce. National Genetic Resources Program. Germplasm Resources Information Network - \(GRIN\) \[Online Database\]. National Germplasm Resources Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland](#)

**Summary:** Available from: <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?33053> [Accessed 5 October 2010]

[USDA, NRCS, 2010. \*Sansevieria hyacinthoides\* \(L.\) Druce iguanatail. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.](#)

**Summary:** Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=SAHY2> [Accessed 5 October 2010]

Varnham, K. 2006 (Updated 2009). Database of non-native species occurring in UK Overseas Territories. JNCC Report 372, Peterborough, United Kingdom.