

Summary

Bothriochloa pertusa (L.) Camus, is a grass with a high invasive potential under the ecological conditions of the Atlantic coast region of Colombia. Between October and December 1982, a number of observations were made on the species including: degree of invasion in different regional life zones, dry matter (DM) production, nutritive quality, vigor, and percent seed germination.

Vegetation samples representative of different life zones were obtained to determine the degree of invasion. DM production under moderately acid soil conditions was measured every two weeks for 70 days following a uniform cut. Nutritive quality was determined with the same frequency. Vigor and percent seed germination was determined at intervals of seven and 28 days after planting, using different concentrations of gibberelic acid and KNO_3 .

The high invasive capacity of the species in unflooded areas of life zones Tropical Dry Forest, Tropical very Dry Forest, and Premontane Dry Forest was confirmed. These are areas where *Dichanthium aristatum*, *Hyparrhenia rufa*, and *Panicum maximum* are grown under intensive grazing.

The greatest DM production of 3.4 t/ha was obtained on day number 42, while the highest crude protein content of 8.3% occurred on day 28. Percent seed germination was greater on day 28 than on day 7. Greatest vigor and percent germination were obtained when seeds were treated with a 200 ppm solution of gibberelic acid.