Setaria adhaerens (Forssk.) Chiov., BUR BRISTLE GRASS, TROPICAL BARBED BRISTLE GRASS. Annual, fibrous-rooted, 1–several-stemmed at base, decumbent to ascending, 16–60 cm tall; shoots with cauline leaves, typically bent (geniculate) at each node; adventitious roots at basal nodes. **Stems (culms):** compressed , to 1.5 mm diameter, tough, smooth (lower stem) and shallowly ridged and rough (upper stem), glabrous; internode hollow. **Leaves:** alternate distichous, simple with sheath; sheath open, compressed-keeled, with wide membranous margins, glabrous, without lobes (auricles) at top; ligule ciliate and densely fringed, ± 1 mm long; blade linear-elliptic, 80–110 × (2.5–)5–12(–17) mm, the widest at midblade and somewhat constricted at base, thin, folded and keeled to midblade, minutely toothed and scabrous on margins, parallel-veined, sparsely pilose. **Inflorescence:** spikelets, in terminal, spikelike panicles, panicle densely flowered, with conspicuous bristles (= reduced branchlets) > spikelets, panicle cylindric, 25–85 mm long, 8–9 mm diameter (excluding bristles) and 11–15 mm diameter (including bristles), spikelet with 2 florets, with lower one sterile and vestigial and upper one bisexual, bracteate, lacking awns; principal rachis ridged, pubescent with soft, erect to mostly ascending hairs along ridges; lateral branches ± pseudowhorled, each with 1 spikelet at tip and to 11-flowered below, 2.5–6 mm long, with glossy, pulvinuslike swelling on upper side at base; stalk of spikelet < 0.5 mm long, each bearing 1(–2) bristle; bristles scabrous with downward-pointing barbs (retrorse), ascending at anthesis, spreading in fruit, 3.5–4.5 mm long, with 2, greenish veins at base and generally purple at tip. **Spikelet:** ellipsoid with 1 flattish side, 1.6–2 mm long, glabrous, easily deciduous, breaking below glumes and leaving a whitish disc ca 0.3 mm across; **glumes** 2, unequal, dimorphic, lower glume sheathing, 0.5–0.7 mm long and 1(3)-veined, membranous, broadly obtuse at tip, upper glume slightly shorter than spikelet, rounded at tip, green, 7–9-veined, ± rounded at tip; **lower lemma** (sterile floret) similar to upper glume, with inrolled margins (clasping upper floret), 5-veined but only 2 apparent approaching tip; **lower palea** membranous and ovate, < 1/2 lemma and 2-veined; **upper lemma** (fertile floret) ovate, 1.6–1.7 mm long, with inrolled margins and clasping upper palea, translucent-green, bumpy and netlike below midpoint (appearing reptilean); **upper palea** nearly as long as lemma and 2-veined, smooth and folded outside of veins and eventually clasping fruit, bumpy and netlike with transverse ridges between veins. **Flower:** bisexual; **perianth (lodicules)** 2, fan-shaped to heart-shaped, ca. 0.25 mm long, at anthesis turgid, glossy, colorless; **stamens** 3, free; filaments threadlike, 1–2 mm long, translucent-white; anthers versatile, dithecal, exserted, oblong, 0.7–0.9 mm long, orangish, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen orangish; **pistil** 1; ovary superior, ovoid to flask-shaped, 0.5–0.8 mm long, translucent-white, glabrous, 1-chambered with 1 ovule; styles 2, erect, ≥ ovary length, translucent-white; stigmas exserted near tips of lemma, feathery (plumose), 0.3–0.5 mm long, purple. **Fruit:** achene (caryopsis), enclosed within spikelet with loose glumes and hidden by lemmas and paleae, mostly abscising from bristles, spikelet 1.8–2 mm long; achene ovoid compressed front-to-back, ca. 1.3 × 0.7 mm, pale yellowish green, lacking defined edges, obtuse at tip. Mid-July–late August.

Waif. Annual first observed on the edge of the range on Hill Canyon Road near Santa Rosa Road at the edge of a plant nursery and citrus orchard, but not observed further along the road. *Setaria adhaerens* has one, or less commonly two, bristles beneath each spikelet.

Its bristles have downward-pointing barbs (retrorse), and the width of the inflorescence is wider than other species in range. This species is similar to *S. verticillata*, and local materials could also be hybrids involving *S. viridis*, presumably brought in with nursery stock from out of range.
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