

2018 January *Guess that Plant*



Tripsacum dactyloides (L.) L., Eastern Gamma Grass

The January *Guess that Plant* was native grass with "deep roots." *Tripsacum dactyloides* is a wetland species in New Jersey associated with our Coastal Plain. This species is a close relative to the genus *Zea* and the early relative teosite.

The example provided for the last month's guess is a test for those discovering plants using identification characteristic other than the normal floral and above ground vegetation. This photo shows dried and sand blasted root exposed by surface erosion. This specimen lacks most identifiable feature other than the growth ringed rhizome. No other native grass in our terrain has this rhizome characteristic.

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