

## Key to *Xyris* spp. of Coastal Mississippi

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|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Leaves flat, stems flat at base.                            | <i>X. iridifolia</i>     |
| 1. Leaves terete (round).                                      | 2.                       |
| 2. Stems twisted.  | 3.                       |
| 3. Stems twisted halfway up.                                   | <i>X. difformis</i>      |
| 3. Stems twisted entire length.                                | 4.                       |
| 4. Leaves $\geq$ 5 mm wide.                                    | 5.                       |
| 5. Stems 50-120 cm long.                                       | 6.                       |
| 6. Spike ovoid, broadest at base.                              | <i>X. ambigua</i>        |
| 6. Spike ellipsoid, broadest at middle.                        | <i>X. fimbriata</i>      |
| 5. Stems < 50 cm.  | <i>X. scabrifolia</i>    |
| 4. Leaves up to 5 mm wide.                                     | 7.                       |
| 7. Stems very slender, almost threadlike; spikes 4-10 mm long. | <i>X. flabelliformis</i> |
| 7. Stems broader, not threadlike; spikes 10-30 mm long.        | 8.                       |
| 8. Leaves twisted.   | <i>X. caroliniana</i>    |
| 8. Leaves straight.  | <i>X. torta</i>          |
| 2. Stems straight.   | 9.                       |
| 9. Leaves threadlike.  | <i>X. baldwiniana</i>    |
| 9. Leaves broader, not threadlike.                             | 10.                      |
| 10. Stems flat.  | <i>X. drummondii</i>     |
| 10. Stems terete.  | 11.                      |
| 11. Leaves 5-10 mm wide.                                       | <i>X. jupicai</i>        |
| 11. Leaves 1-5 mm wide.  | 12.                      |
| 12. Leaves 1-2 mm wide; spikes 6-15 mm long.                   | <i>X. elliottii</i>      |
| 12. Leaves 2-5 mm wide; spikes 10-25 mm long.                  | <i>X. stricta</i>        |