
MICROSWORD



Lilaeopsis brasiliensis

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AquaticMag.com

Aliases: Micro Sword Grass, Copragrass, Carpet Grass

Origin: Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina

Natural Growth: Fully & partially submerged in wetlands, floodplains, streams and on the banks and streams of ditches, lakes & Rivers.

In the aquarium setting Microsword is an excellent foreground plant that can be used to carpet. It propagates by sending runners under the soil. By separating the running and re-planting in a grid pattern aquarium keepers can encourage a lush carpet, though it may also be permitted to run wild and will attain a reasonable carpet effect by it's own means.

Many believe that microsword carpets are best achieved through CO2 injection, but in my personal experience a thin carpet can be achieved over a period of only a few months with only minimal fertilization in ordinary substrates. The largest hurdle to overcome is the delicate leaves being prone to algae damage and easily losing access to light. This can be overcome very simply through keeping shrimp and snails with the plant.