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An awnless variant of Bidens tripartita

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Summary:

A form of *Bidens tripartita* that lacks seed awns was found in Tamba Hill, northern Kinki District, Japan. It was found in cropped or abandoned paddy in small basins in the hill, with or separately from normal awned form. Only the normal awned form was found in plains around Tamba Hill. A cultivation exper-iment showed that this is a genetic polymorphism. After simulated rice reaping in an experimental mixed stand of the two forms, many awned but no awnless seeds were found attached on experimenter's clothing. The percentage of the seeds remaining inside the paddy after work was higher in awnless than in awned form.

Keywords: Bidens tripartita, epizoochory (ecto-zoochory), dispersal, polymorphism

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