



## *Juncus microcephalus*

### Common Name(s):

South American rush

### Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

### Distribution:

Common throughout the North Island and northern South Island, usually lowland.

### Habitat:

Aquatic: Emergent.

### Features\*:

Loosely or densely tufted perennial, bronze or occasionally red-purple at base. Stems 15-90 cm high, without internal transverse septa below inflorescence. Leaves terete or  $\pm$  compressed, transversely-septate with septa usually evident externally. Inflorescence 6-24 cm long, very variable, open, much-branched, with 3-8-flowered clusters at ends of branches. Tepals 3-3.5 mm long, all  $\pm$  equal, broad, acute. Stamens 6. Capsule 2.5-3.5 mm long,  $<$  to  $\pm$  = tepals, broad, depressed at top, minutely mucronate, reddish-brown.

### Flowering:

Spring to early summer

### Fruiting:

Summer to autumn

### \*Attribution:

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA). Features description from Healy and Edgar (1980).

### References and further reading:

Healy, A.J.; Edgar, E. (1980). Flora of New Zealand, Volume III. Adventive Cyperaceous, Petalous and Spathaceous Monocotyledons. Government Printer, Wellington. 220pp.

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

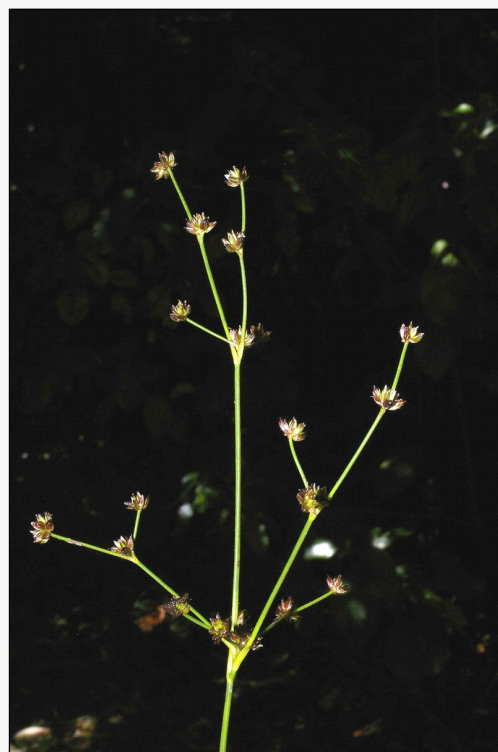
Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication. <http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-factsheets/freshwater-pest-species>

Healy, A.J. (1982). Identification of weeds and clovers. New Zealand Weed and Pest Control Society Publication. Editorial Services Limited, Featherston. 299pp.

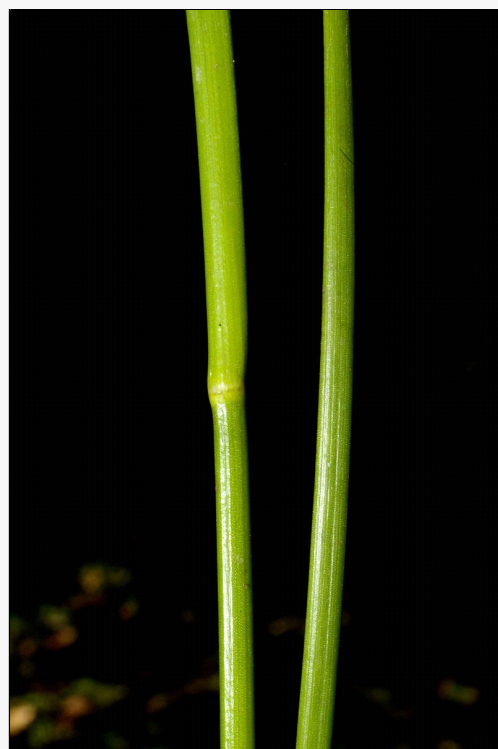
Kirschner, J. (compiler) (2002). Juncaceae 2: *Juncus* subg. *Juncus*, Species Plantarum: Flora of the World Part 7: 1-336.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=3345](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3345)



**Caption:** *Juncus microcephalus*  
**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth



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