



**Genus-species:** *Juncus australis*

**Authority:** Hook.f., 1858

**Subordinate taxa:** -

**Synonyms and authority:** -

**Common name:** -

**Section:** Juncotypus

**Threat status (2012):** Native, non threatened

**NZ distribution:** Widespread and common throughout.

**Habitat:** Drains and wet pasture. Mainly low land.

**Identification features:** Loose blue-green to grey-green clumps. Stems up to 1.2 m tall with vertical ridges and are often covered in a whitish bloom. **Pith:** when stem is split length ways, pith almost absent. **Leaves:** absent, reduced to basal sheaths that are dull dark yellow-brown to chestnut brown in colour, shiny at base. **Flower heads:** branched and made up of one to several dense clusters. **Capsules:** 2.3 - 3 mm long and pale greenish brown in colour. **Tepals:** equal to or slightly shorter in length than the capsule.

**Similar species:** None. This species is the only one that is blue-green in colour, has a whitish bloom covering, ridged stems and usually with interrupted to absent pith.



A- habitat, B- whole plant, C- capsules and tepals, D- flower heads, E- stem with vertical ridges, F- pith almost absent, G -basal sheaths.