



Genus-species: *Juncus gerardii*

Authority: Loisel., 1809

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: -

Common name: -

Section: Steirochloa

Threat status (2012): Naturalised

NZ distribution: Scattered in coastal sites throughout both North and South Island, also inland in saline influenced wetlands in Otago

Habitat: Restricted to saltmarsh habitats or other salt-influenced habitats inland, where it forms dense grey-green swards.

Identification features: Tufted, sword forming plant to 80 cm tall, with long creeping rhizome. **Leaves:** dull green, channelled, stiff, wiry, up to 20 cm long with small rounded lobes (auricles) visible at the base. **Flower heads:** 2-4 main branches and flowers borne singly along branchlets. **Capsules:** light brown, 3 mm long. **Tepals:** similar or shorter in length of capsules. Tepals dark brown to black, hooded at the tip.

Similar species: Unlike any other species.



A- habitat in circled area, B- whole plant, C- flower heads, D- capsules and tepals, E- leaves, F- ear-like membrane (auricle) visible at base of leaves, G- creeping rhizomes.