



Genus-species: *Juncus holoschoenus*

Authority: R.Br., 1810

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: -

Common name: -

Section: Ozophyllum

Threat status (2012): Native, Nationally Critical

NZ distribution: Formerly widespread, only recently collected near Taupo

Habitat: Coastal and lowland to sub-alpine wetlands. Always found growing in shallow water.

Identification features: Tufted bright-green rush up to 45 cm tall. Stems round with cross walls absent or just evident. Leaf sheath pale green to almost white. **Leaves:** tubular with internal cross walls (feels like it clicks if you hold base of leaf between finger and thumb and slide up). Leaves upright to curving and tapering gradually to a point. **Flower heads:** open with long branches, with 5-20 almost round flowerheads (each with 5-20 flowers up to 1 cm across). Modified leaf (bract) extends from base of flower head, usually shorter than flower head. **Capsules:** 4.5 mm long, slightly tapered at the tip, brown. **Tepals:** more or less equal in length compared to capsules.

Similar species: Most similar to *J. prismatocarpus* and *J. fockei*. Differs from *J. prismatocarpus* in that it has round, rather than flat leaves with internal cross walls that extend across the entire leaf width, and flowers with 6 rather than 3 stamens. It differs from *J. fockei* in that its capsules are shorter, slightly tapered and more or less equal in length to the tepals.



A- flower head showing capsules and tepals, B- old flower head, C- whole plant, D- flower head showing leaf like extension, E- leaf and stem, F- leaf with internal crosswalls.