



Genus-species: *Juncus inflexus*

Authority: L., 1753

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: -

Common name: hard rush

Section: Juncotypus

Threat status (2012): Naturalised

NZ distribution: Eastern NI from E Cape S, West Coast, Canterbury and Otago

Habitat: Damp pasture, rushlands and wetland margins.

Identification features: Large dense tufted, leafless rush up to 60 cm tall. Stems are hard with obvious ridges and dull grey-green colour. **Pith:** when stem is split length ways, pith has distinct holes.

Leaves: absent, reduced to basal sheaths which are dark purple brown to black, glossy at the base.

Flower heads: branched, spreading or tightly packed, flowers evenly spaced on branchlets. **Capsules:**

2.5-4 cm long, dark brown to black. **Tepals:** similar (\pm) to length of capsules.

Similar species: Can be distinguished from all other grey-green leafless rushes by the dark-brown to black capsules.



A- habitat, B- whole plant, C- flower heads, D- capsules and tepals, E- interrupted pith and ridged stems, F- dark basal sheaths.