



Genus-species: *Juncus pusillus*

Authority: Buchenau, 1879

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: *Juncus capillaceus* Hook.f. (1853)

Common name: dwarf rush

Section: Ozophyllum

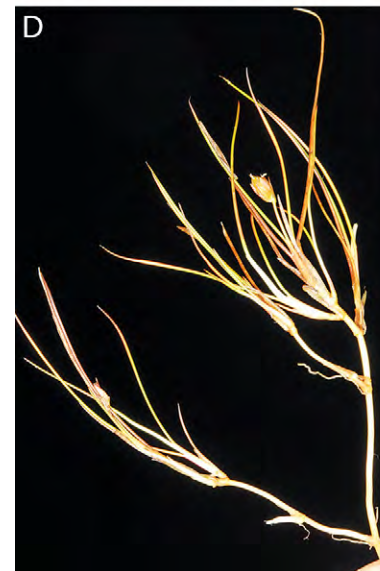
Threat status (2012): Endemic, non threatened

NZ distribution: Southwards from Bay of Plenty

Habitat: Open, swampy ground in bogs and alongside tarn, lake and river margins. Coastal to alpine. Often associated with *J. novae-zelandiae*.

Identification features: Tiny creeping plant with fine leaves, 2-3 cm long. **Leaves:** delicate and tubular, often longer than length of flowering stems. **Flower heads:** short, flowers either singular or 2-3 together at the end of stems. **Capsules:** pale brown, oblong with a distinctive point. **Tepals:** shorter in length than capsule.

Similar species: Most likely confused with *J. scheuchzeriodes* and *J. novae-zelandiae*. From *J. scheuchzeriodes* it differs by the tubular rather than flat red-brown to brown rather than pale-green, red-green leaves which are less than 0.5 mm wide. Furthermore it has flowers which are 1.5-3 mm rather than 4 mm long. From *J. novae-zelandiae* it differs by the light brown rather than shiny black tipped mature capsules and stems which are less than the length of the leaves at maturity.



A- lakeside habitat in circled area, B- whole plant, C- immature flower head with stamens and filaments, D- fine leaves and flower head shorter than leaves, E-capsule with distinctive tip and tepals, F- creeping rhizome.