

# Juncus lomatophyllus

## COMMON NAMES

broad-leaved rush

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Rushes & Allied Plants

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Leafy rush to 74 cm tall, leaves broad (to 1.5 cm wide), flattened often with pink base, with young leafy shoots at the base attached to creeping stems, with branched flowerheads made up of 3–12 clusters of dark-brown to black flowers/capsules (fruit).

## FLOWER COLOURS

Black, Brown

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tufted, grass-like perennial, with leafy offsets. **Stems** 15–75 cm high, > leaves. **Leaves** 6–15 mm wide, flat, of thin texture, tapering gradually from the wide base to a small fine point, bluish-green, occasionally reddish-tinged near margins and tips; sheaths red. **Inflorescence** 10–26 cm long, open, with many spreading branches. **Flowers** in clusters of 3–12 at tips of branches, clusters  $\pm$  10 mm diam. **Tepals** 3.5–4.5 mm long,  $\pm$  equal. **Stamens** 6. **Capsules** c. 3 mm long, < tepals, narrow, acute, dark brown.

## SIMILAR TAXA

No other grass-leaved rushes has such large and wide leaves, perhaps the native *J. planifolius* is the most similar, but lacks the stoloniferous sward-forming growth habit and has much smaller (< 2.5 mm) capsules and flower clusters.

## DISTRIBUTION

Widespread and locally abundant in northern Westland.

## HABITAT

Wet pasture and a wide range of wet habitats.

## GENUS

Juncus

## FAMILY

Juncaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Juncus lomatophyllus* Spreng.

## SYNONYMS

*Australojuncus lomatophyllus* (Spreng.) Záveská Drábková & Pročková



## TAXONOMIC NOTES

Subgenus *Juncus*, Section *Graminifolii* Kirschner (2002: Juncaceae 2)

Proćków et al. (2023) proposed a taxonomic segregation of *Juncus* into six genera based on molecular and morphological evidence. Whilst it has long been recognised that the current circumscription of *Juncus* includes morphologically divergent taxa—reflected in the recognition of numerous subgenera and sections—the consensus view of the NZPCN website taxonomy subcommittee, taking into consideration advice from Australian *Juncus* expert Dr Karen Wilson (NSW Herbarium) and others in Europe is that the generic segregations proposed need further consideration and testing. Accordingly, it has been decided to maintain the current broad circumscription of *Juncus*, but to include all new names as synonyms in factsheets. We thank, in particular, Dr Wilson for her helpful comments.

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

Summer

## FRUITING

Autumn

## YEAR NATURALISED

1969

## ORIGIN

South Africa

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Unknown, seed or soil contaminant.

## CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Rarely controlled, but can be controlled manually, mechanically or herbicidally depending on situation, susceptible to grazing.

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Seed dispersed by animals, water or contaminated machinery.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).

## ETYMOLOGY

**juncus**: From the Latin *jungere* 'to tie or bind', the stems of some species being used to make cord (Johnson and Smith)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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- Pročków, J., Závěská Drábková, L. 2023. A revision of the Juncaceae with delimitation of six new genera: nomenclatural changes in *Juncus*. *Phytotaxa* 622(1): 17–41.

## ATTRIBUTION

Prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA). Features description from Healy and Edgar (1980). Some of this factsheet information is derived from [Flora of New Zealand Online](#) and is used under a [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 New Zealand](#) licence.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/juncus-lomatophyllus/>

## PDF DATE

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