



Genus-species: *Juncus filicaulis*

Authority: Buchenau, 1904

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: -

Common name: -

Section: Juncotypus

Threat status (2012): Naturalised

NZ distribution: Mostly Canterbury from Banks Peninsula to Hurunui, also Wellington, Marlborough and Otago.

Habitat: Dry hill country grasslands.

Identification features: Very slender leafless rush up to 55 cm tall, with 0.5-1.2 mm diameter stems, grey- or blue-green, hard with obvious ridges. **Pith:** when stem is split length ways, pith has distinct holes. **Leaves:** absent, reduced to basal sheaths which are yellow brown, slightly glossy at base. **Flower heads:** tightly clustered spherical head (rarely with up to 3 lateral clusters). **Capsules:** 2-2.5 cm long, red brown. **Tepals:** similar or just longer in length than capsules.

Similar species: Smaller with hard, very slender stems compared to most other leafless rushes.



A- whole plant with thin stems, B- herbarium specimen of whole plant, C&D- variation in flower head shape, E- capsules and tepals, F- interrupted pith, G- basal sheaths.