



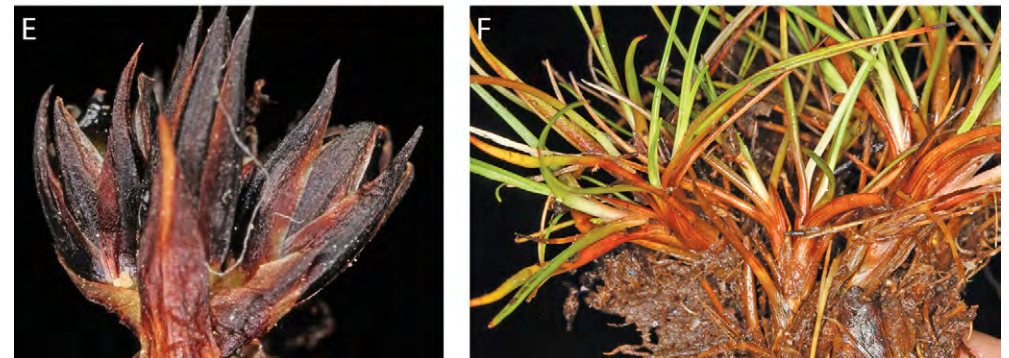
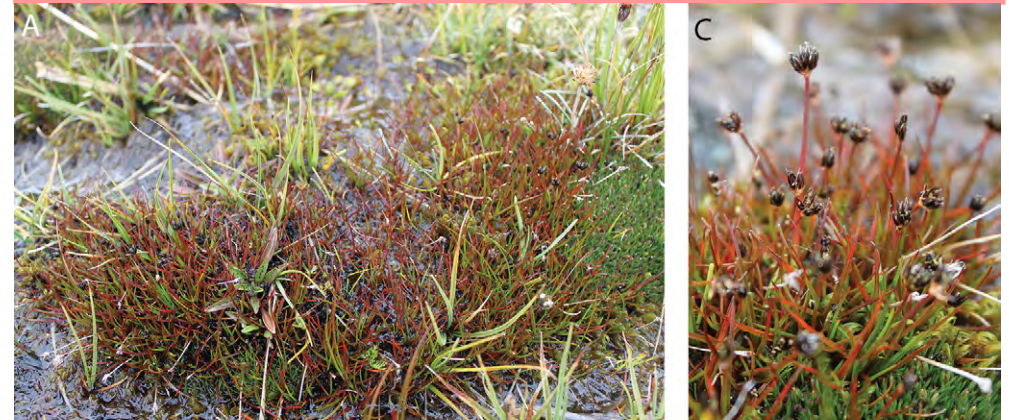
- Genus-species:** *Juncus antarcticus*
- Authority:** Hook.f., 1844
- Subordinate taxa:** -
- Synonyms and authority:** *Juncus brevifolius* sensu Kirk (1882) (nom. inv.), *Juncus pauciflorus* sensu Kirk (1877) (nom. inv.)
- Common name:** dwarf rush
- Section:** Graminifolii
- Threat status (2012):** Native, non threatened

NZ distribution: Alpine areas in the North and South Island. In South Island also extending to sea level in Otago and Southland. Also found on subantarctic islands.

Habitat: Margins of flowing and still water bodies, drains and wet pasture.

Identification features: A small bright green tufted rush growing up to 12 cm tall. **Leaves:** grow from the base and are fleshy tapering to a point. **Flower heads:** are single (rarely double) and form at the end of branches. 2-10 flowers in each cluster. **Capsules:** ~3mm, egg shaped and black. **Tepals:** same length as capsule.

Similar species: Similar to *J. novae-zelandiae* with which it may grow. It differs by having no cross-walls in leaves, dark maroon to black tepals rather than red or greenish brown and 3-6 stamens instead of consistently 6 stamens. Its small stature, and usually single flower means that it can look similar to *J. lomatophyllus*, *J. caespiticus* and *J. capitatus* species but differs by its channelled leaves; except for *J. caespiticus* which is much larger and usually coastal and *J. capitatus* which differs by its usually reddish tepals which are much longer than the length of its capsules.



A- habitat, B- whole plant, C,D - flower heads, E- capsules and tepals, F- leaves and basal sheaths.