



Genus-species: *Juncus conglomeratus*

Authority: L., 1753

Subordinate taxa: -

Synonyms and authority: -

Common name: soft rush

Section: Juncotypus

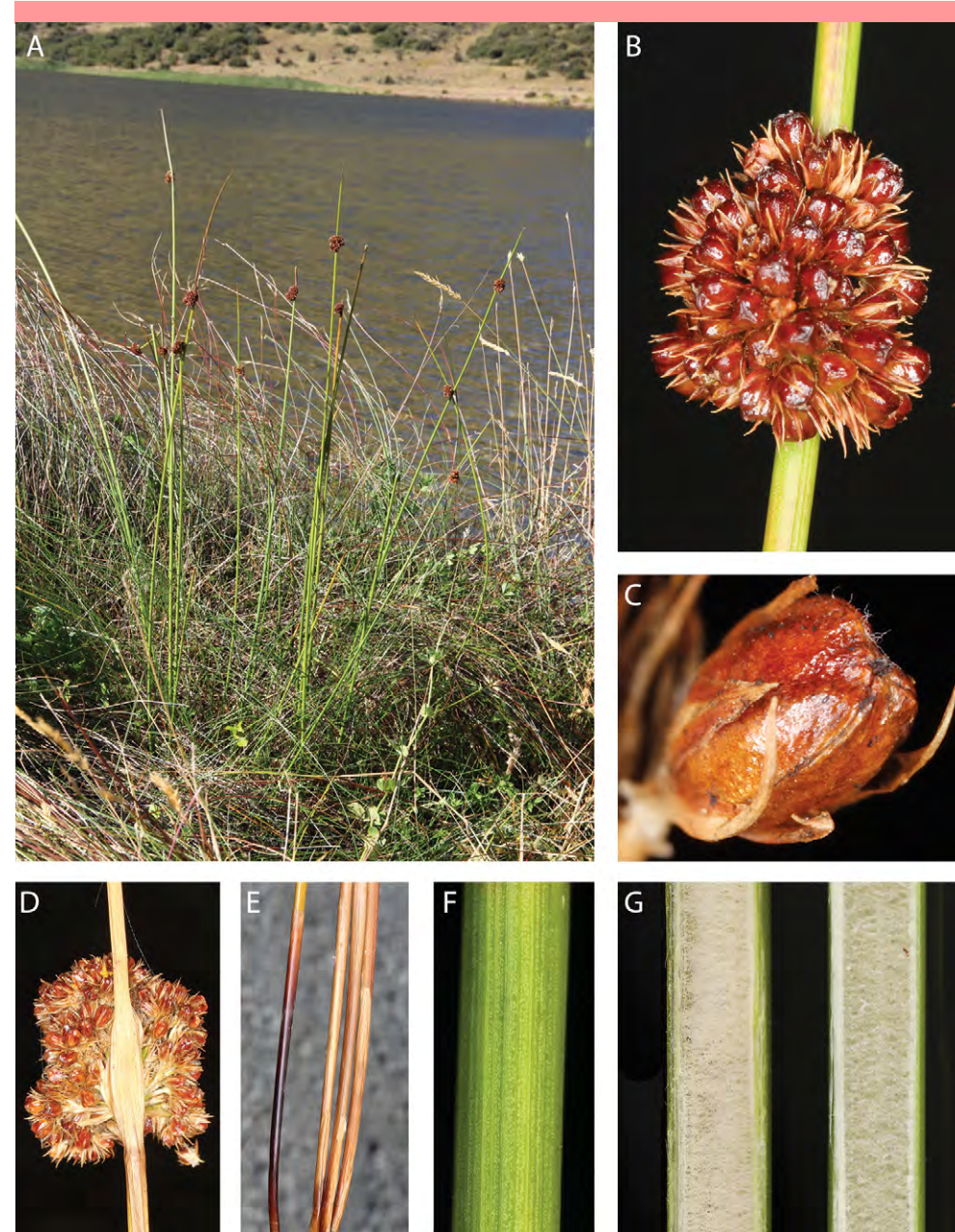
Threat status (2012): Naturalised

NZ distribution: Scattered throughout the SI

Habitat: Lake margins, roadside drains and wet pasture.

Identification features: Upright clump-forming leafless rush to 80 cm tall, with tall cylindrical stems with visible ridges. **Leaves:** absent. **Pith:** when stem is split length ways, pith is entire with no obvious holes. **Flower heads:** single and tightly clustered, 10 mm across, near the end of each stem, made up of many reddish-brown flowers. Stem is swollen behind the flower head. **Capsules:** flattend at top and are a shiny reddish brown. **Tepals:** pale with a brown central stripe, and shorter than length of capsule.

Similar species: Similar to other tall leafless rushes but has a dense single flower cluster. Most similar to *J. effusus* var. *compactus* from which it differs with a swelling of the stem behind the flower head and conspicuous ridges on the stem beneath the flower head.



A- habitat, B - flower head, C- capsule and tepals, D- swollen modified leaf (bract) behind flower head, E- basal sheaths, F- stems with visible ridges, G- continuous pith.