



**Genus-species:** *Juncus novae-zelandiae*

**Authority:** Hook.f., 1853

**Subordinate taxa:** -

**Synonyms and authority:** -

**Common name:** dwarf rush

**Section:** Ozophyllum

**Threat status (2012):** Endemic, non threatened

**NZ distribution:** Southwards from Waikato and Bay of Plenty

**Habitat:** Mostly in mountains but also in open places such as swamps and wet open scrub areas.

**Identification features:** Small dense tufts that can form large patches from a creeping rhizome.

**Leaves:** 2-10 cm long, tubular with visible cross walls. Flower heads: forms a single head of 3-5 flowers, exceeded by a leaf like extension. **Capsules:** up to 3 mm long, oblong and shining black. **Tepals:** much shorter in length compared to capsules.

**Similar species:** Similar to *J. antarcticus*, *J. pusillus*, and *J. scheuchzerioides*. It differs from *J. antarcticus* (with which it may grow) by having visible cross-walls on leaves, red or greenish brown rather than dark maroon to black tepals and consistently 6 rather than 3-6 stamens. Differs from *J. pusillus* by the lustrous black rather than dull pale-brown capsules. Differs from *J. scheuchzerioides* in having a single head of 3-5 flowers, shining black capsules and a leaf like extension that exceeds the flower head.



A- habitat, B- whole plant, C- flower head, D- capsules and tepals, E- whole plant showing creeping rhizome.