

JUNCUS DIFFUSISSIMUS Buckl.  
Diffuse Rush

FAMILY: Juncaceae

HABIT: Herbaceous, caespitose perennial, 2-5 dm.; flowering August, September; fruiting September, October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Distinctive among rushes in Ohio in its combination of a long, slender capsule and a diffusely branched inflorescence. Immature plants resemble other species of *Juncus* that grow in the same habit, such as *J. acuminatus*.

TOTAL RANGE: S. IN to MO and OK, s. to AL and TX; coastal plain from se. VA to SC; reported from WV.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Erie, Lucas, Perry, and Pike counties. Pre-1980 records are from Jackson, Knox, and Scioto counties.

HABITAT: Shallow water and shores of ponds, ditches, and quiet streams.

HAZARDS: Drainage or other alteration of the wetland habitat.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, possibly good.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature capsules are needed for positive identification.

COMMENTS: Mature plants of this rush are conspicuous and easily identified. It should be sought throughout southern Ohio.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Beall, E.O. and J.W. Thieret. 1986. Aquatic and wetland plants of Kentucky. Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, Sci. & Techn. Series No. 5. 315 p.

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.

Godfrey, R.K. and J.W. Wooten. 1979. Aquatic and wetland plants of southeastern United States. Monocotyledons. Univ. of Georgia Press, Athens. 933 p.



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