# Scirpus cyperinus

## woolgrass bulrush

Cyperaceae

Native

**FACW** 



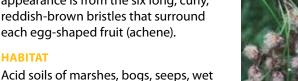


## **DESCRIPTION**

Known for its large wooly flowering heads, this species forms dense clumps and tussocks. Stems (to 1.5 m tall) are stout, robust, erect and smooth. Leaves are alternate, curving downward with green to brownish sheaths.

### **FLOWERS AND FRUITS**

August through September. Flower heads, at the top of fertile stems, are wide and spreading, with many clusters of spikelets on each nodding branched stalk. Wrapping the base of the flower head are downward curving leafy bracts with reddishbrown sheaths. Spikelets (3 to 8 mm long) crowd two-three per tiny stalk, are oval to egg-shaped, blunt at the tip with reddish-brown scales, and look wooly at maturity. This wooly appearance is from the six long, curly, reddish-brown bristles that surround each egg-shaped fruit (achene).



**SIMILAR SPECIES** 

meadows, and ditches.

Scirpus atrocinctus, blackgirdle bulrush, is similar but rare and restricted to higher elevations. It is a less robust plant with only one spikelet on each tiny stalk in a cluster.













Scirpus atrocinctus