

New Jersey Rush

Juncus caesariensis

STATUS

Special Concern 

Vulnerable 



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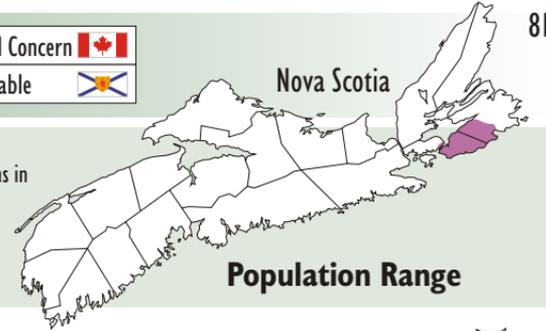
Species Description

New Jersey Rush is a perennial herb with elongated, cylindrical leaves that reach heights of 40-70 cm. Inconspicuous green flowers cluster together and form brown fruit capsules (shown in picture above) that are longer than the floral parts. The stem and leaves are rough to the touch.



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Occurs in 26 bogs and fens in Cape Breton, with an estimated population of 5,000-10,000 plants.



Population Range

Habitat

Found in open habitats along the edges of bogs and fens and in boggy areas of coniferous forests. Prefers open, unshaded areas.



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New Jersey Rush typically occurs in wetlands such as bogs and fens. Look for its flowers in July and August.

Interesting Points

- Located in Cape Breton - the distribution of most ACPF species is southwestern Nova Scotia.
- Can persist in unsatisfactory living conditions (shaded areas) for a period of time in a vegetative form and resume growth when the canopy is reopened.



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Similar Species

Note:
There are over 25 Rush species found in Nova Scotia.

Canada Rush (*Juncus canadensis*):
Common throughout the province and very similar to the New Jersey Rush. Canada Rush has smooth leaves and stems and more dense flowers and fruiting clusters.



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Threats to Survival

- Activities that alter water flow and drainage in wetland habitats (infilling, road building and forestry practices such as clearcutting without buffer zones).
- Closures in canopy due to natural succession reduces open areas and removes suitable habitat.



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OHV damage

How You Can Help

Do not build roads, infill or drive OHVs in wetlands or along wetland margins as these activities alter key wetland processes. If wetland alteration is necessary you must obtain provincial permits. For more details contact your NS DNR regional biologist and view “How can you help” at www.speciesatrisk.ca/coastalplainflora/



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Contacts, Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: NS DNR (902) 679-6091

Info: www.speciesatrisk.ca/coastalplainflora

Sighting Reports: 1-866-727-3447 or sightings@speciesatrisk.ca

Stewardship: Nova Scotia Nature Trust, www.nmnt.ca