

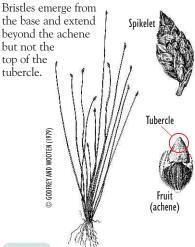
SIZE: 10-50 cm tall.

LEAVES: Appear leafless. They are reduced to sheaths that surround the base of the stem.

STEM: Erect, stiff stems (culms) 0.5-1 mm wide, and growing in dense clumps. The culms grow from an underground stem (rhizome).

FLOWERS: Single large, oval spikelets (5-15 mm long) at the tips of the stems (culms). Each spikelet is composed of 10-30 small flowers that are covered by brownish scales.

FRUITS: Each flower in the spikelet turns into a dry, one seeded fruit (achene). There is a large, knob-like turbercle on the top that is about the same size and width as the achene.



Habitat:

Peaty or sandy areas along lakeshores, including peaty wetlands that border the lake. It can be found floating on vegetative mats that have dislodged from the shoreline.

Interesting point: This species is only found along 5 lakeshores in NS (and Canada!).

Similar species: There are 12 spikerush species in NS which all look very similar and are typically identified by comparison of the mature fruit. Tubercled Spikerush can be distinguished from other spikerushes due to its large, wide fruit.



Tubercled Spikerush







ACPF plant survey

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