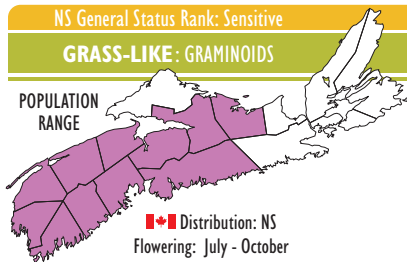


# Woodland Rush

*Juncus subcaudatus* var. *planisepalus*



POPULATION RANGE



■+ Distribution: NS  
Flowering: July - October

**SIZE:** 30-80 cm tall.

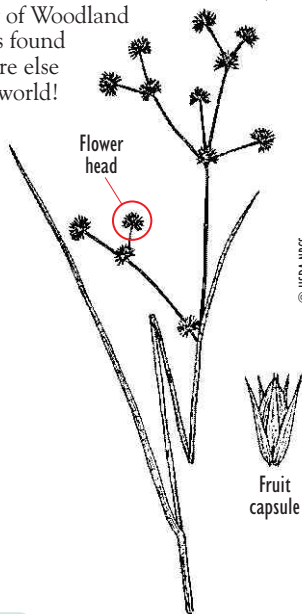
**LEAVES:** Cylindrical (round in cross-section), smooth, 1 mm wide, and with many horizontal divisions (septa).

**STEM:** Erect, round and slender.

**FLOWERS:** An open, widely spreading branched cluster (inflorescence) at the top of the stem, with nearly horizontal lower branches. The cluster can contain few or many heads, with each head made up of 5-20 small flowers.

**FRUITS:** Oval-shaped capsules, 3-3.6 mm long, containing seeds that are 1 mm long with short tails on each end (about 1/3 the length of the seed).

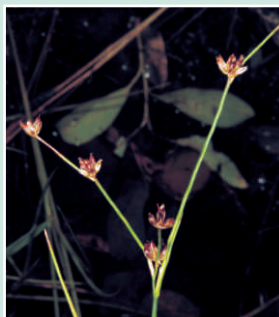
**NOTES:** Endemic to Nova Scotia, this variety of Woodland Rush is found nowhere else in the world!



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Flower cluster

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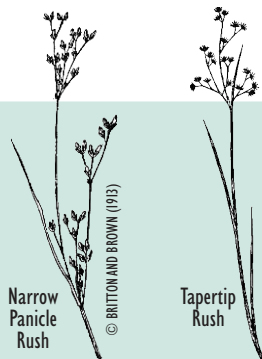
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**Habitat:**

Wet boggy woods, spruce swamps, lakeshores and streamside wetlands.

**Interesting point:** In Japan the leaves of rushes are used to weave tatami mats, a traditional form of Japanese flooring.

**Similar species:** There are over 25 species of rushes in NS that are often distinguished by differences in the leaves, fruit capsules and seeds. Canada Rush (*J. canadensis*) has larger seeds (1.3-1.8 mm long) with tails at least 2/3 the length of the seed. Narrow Panicle Rush (*J. brevicaudatus*) has a narrower flower cluster with 2-7 heads on upward pointing branches. Jointed Rush (*J. articulatus*) is generally shorter (20-40 cm tall) and has tailless seeds. Tapertip Rush (*J. acuminatus*) has tailless seeds and flower cluster branches that usually point upwards. These species all have round leaves like Woodland Rush.



Narrow Panicle Rush

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Tapertip Rush

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