

Plant Data Sheet

Common Rush, *Juncus effusus*

Range

Throughout most of North America, from Alaska to Newfoundland and south to California (1)

Climate

Freshwater wetlands

Elevation

Below 8,000 feet (1)

Local occurrence

Common in wet prairies, meadows, pastures and fields as well as in shallow water at the edges of ponds and lakes (2) and in disturbed sites

Habitat preferences

Full sun, moist to wet fields, disturbed sites, seasonally standing water to 3" (1)

Plant strategy type/successional stage

Extremely hardy and adaptable, can be invasive in some areas

Associated species

Buttercup (2), *Carex* species, *Deschampsia caespitosa* and *Scirpus microcarpus* (3)

Collection restrictions or guidelines

Flowers persist from March to September or October (1)

Seed germination

Spring germination, full sun

Vegetative regeneration

Division

Seed life

Up to 60 years (1)

Recommended seed storage conditions

Propagation recommendations

Spring division (4)

Soil or medium requirements

Prefers acidic soils, wet (4), medium nitrogen, exposed and compacted mineral soils with fluctuating ground water (3)

Installation form



Bare rootstock, keep moist and cool until planting, bury to the crowns in a moist, sunny spot in late fall (1)

Recommended planting density

Height and width of mature plant – 18-48” by 12-24” (3)

Care requirements after installed (water weekly, water once etc.)

None

Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan

Moderate

Sources cited

- 1) Hansen, W.W. 2003. Native Plants of the Northwest, Native Plant Nursery & Gardens. Common Rush (*Juncus Effusus*). http://www.nwplants.com/plants/wetlands/juncaceae/juncus_effusus/
- 2) Guard, J. 1995. Wetland Plants of Oregon & Washington. Lone Pine Publishing, Redmond, WA 98052.
- 3) Klinka, K., Krajina, V.J., Ceska, A. and A.M. Scagel. 1989. Indicator Plants of Coastal British Columbia. University of British Columbia Press, Vancouver, BC.
- 4) Perry, L. 2003. *Juncus effusus*. <http://pss.uvm.edu/pss123/aqjunc.html>

Data compiled by: *Lizbeth Seebacher* April 16, 2003