

ELEOCHARIS FLAVESCENS (Poiret) Urban
Green Spike-rush

FAMILY: Cyperaceae.

SYNONYMS: *Eleocharis olivacea* Torr.

HABIT: Herbaceous perennial, tufted from a short rootstalk, 0.5-4 dm.; fruiting June-October.

SIMILAR SPECIES: Easily confused with other tufted spikerushes with slender culms, such as *E. acicularis* or *E. intermedia*, and often growing with these other species. Identified by careful examination of mature achenes and sheath characters.

TOTAL RANGE: Nova Scotia to MN, s. chiefly in the e. states to FL.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are from Champaign, Erie, Logan, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Williams Counties. Pre-1980 records are from Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Ottawa Counties.

HABITAT: A variety of wet, open situations: shores, pond margins, bog mats, fields; often in deeper water than many other spike-rushes.

HAZARDS: Alteration of habitat by changes in water level; overgrowth by woody species through succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Unknown, but probably good.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Collect mature, fruiting specimens with underground parts.

COMMENTS: Only variety *olivacea* is known in Ohio. This species is easily overlooked and/or misidentified. It often occurs in very wet situations which are reached only with difficulty.

It is probably more frequent than the records indicate. It should be sought in suitable habitats throughout the state.

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