

JUNCUS INTERIOR Wieg.
Inland Rush

FAMILY: Juncaceae

HABIT: Perennial herb to 8 dm.; flowering May-July; fruiting June-August.

SIMILAR SPECIES: *Juncus interior* is similar to and may be confused with *Juncus tenuis*, *Juncus platyphyllus*, and *Juncus dudleyi*. It is distinguished from these species by its leaf sheath-auricles and technical flower or fruit characters.

TOTAL RANGE: Almost throughout North America, and naturalized elsewhere.

STATE RANGE (as of 2008): Post-1980 records are known from Defiance, Montgomery, Pike, and Warren counties. Pre-1980 records exist from Cuyahoga, Jackson, Madison, Sandusky, Union and Vinton counties.

HABITAT: Moist to dry, open to semi-open situations; often in sandy soil: roadsides, prairies, meadows, fallow fields, clearings, and upland woods.

HAZARDS: Overshading by woody species as a result of succession.

RECOVERY POTENTIAL: Presumed good since it appears able to colonize disturbed habitats.

INVENTORY GUIDELINES: Mature flowering or fruiting material is needed for positive identification. The color and texture of the leaf sheath-auricles are also important key characters.

COMMENTS: It is quite possible that this species is more frequent in Ohio than current records indicate. Like many other members of this genus, it is easily misidentified. It should be sought throughout Ohio, especially in the western half of the state.

SELECTED REFERENCES:

Braun, E.L. 1967. The Monocotyledoneae of Ohio: Cat-tails to orchids. The Ohio State Univ. Press, Columbus, OH. 464 p.

Gleason, H.A., and A. Cronquist. 1991. Manual of vascular plants of northeastern United States and adjacent Canada. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. 910 pp.



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Created: 2/1984 James Burns