

SEDGES — MONOCOTYLEDONOUS PLANTS

Carex glaucescens

Common name: Southern Waxy Sedge; Clustered Sedge

Form: Perennial, 2 ½ - 3 ½ feet tall

Leaves: Alternate, 3-ranked, blades frosted or whitish, powdery coating imparts a gray-green color; blades ¼ - ½ inch wide, basal sheaths brown to purple

Flowers: Inconspicuous, brown to cinnamon-brown; long solitary staminate (male) stalk extends beyond upper pistillate (female) spikes; July - September

Fruit: Nutlet; oval, curved inward; July - September

Habitat: Pinelands, savannas, roadside ditches

Comment: *Carex* is an important food for wildlife.





***Cladium mariscus* ssp. *jamaicense*
(*Cladium jamaicense*)**

- Common name: Jamaica Swamp Sawgrass; Sawgrass
- Form: Perennial, 9 - 12 feet tall
- Leaves: Alternate, 3-ranked, large, stiff, flat to V-shaped, relatively narrow; 3 - 3 ½ feet long, ¾ inch wide; margins and midribs with sawlike teeth; growing from base
- Flowers: Spikelets reddish brown; extend several feet above leaves; **July - September**
- Fruit: Nutlet; olive-purple, pitted; **July - September**
- Habitat: Fresh and brackish marshes
- Comment: Midribs on the underside of the leaves have small, sharp teeth like a saw blade, and the stems are hollow.

Fuirena squarrosa

Common name: Hairy Umbrella-Sedge



- Form: Tufted perennial; growth in clumps, up to 20 inches tall
- Leaves: Blade with soft hairs or glabrous above, glabrous beneath; margins with bristles or hairy bristles
- Flowers: Umbel; terminal; **July - October**
- Fruit: Nutlet; brown; **July - October**
- Habitat: Marshes, roadside ditches, savannas, bogs
- Comment: Stems are triangular, ribbed and smooth.

Rhynchospora latifolia (*Dichromena latifolia*)

- Common name: Sandswamp Whitetop; Whitetop Sedge
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, 2 - 3 feet tall
- Leaves: Basal, erect, smooth, less than ¼ inch wide, tapering to a tip
- Flowers: Tiny, dull, dingy-white flowers, clustered on the end of stem; surrounded by seven or more conspicuous, green-tipped, white bracts; May - September
- Fruit: Nutlet; curving inward on two sides, brown-yellow; May - September
- Habitat: Savannas, roadsides, any moist open areas
- Comment: The flowers and bracts together resemble a single white, star-shaped flower.



Schoenoplectus robustus (*Scirpus robustus*)

- Common name: Sturdy Bulrush; Saltmarsh Bulrush
- Form: Herbaceous perennial, 2 - 3 feet tall; triangular stems
- Leaves: Alternate, 3-ranked, long, slender drooping blades, 2 feet long, ½ inch wide
- Flowers: Terminal, inconspicuous, in 1 - 5 large-bristled spikelets, 1 - 1 ¼ inches long, resembling tiny cones; July - October
- Fruit: Nutlet; brown, lustrous; July - October
- Habitat: Brackish and salt marshes
- Comment: Stems are hard and triangular.

