

Carex scoparia



broom sedge

Family	Cyperaceae		
Origin	Native		
WIS Code	FACW	CoC	4

DESCRIPTION

Clump-forming sedge with tall, thin, upright stems about 1 m tall. The dense tight broom-shaped flower spikes that age to a tan to dark brown are a key character. The leaves are 1-3 mm wide and shorter than the stems. Stems have fibrous, brown sheaths at the base.

FLOWERS AND FRUITS

May to August. The numerous flower spikes are closely clustered near the stem tip. Female flower-cases (perigynia) are very long, lance-shaped and narrow in width.

HABITAT

Swamps, wet meadows, floodplain forests and stream banks.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Carex tribuloides, blunt broom sedge, has very similar flower spikes in habit and appearance, but this species is much leafier with six to 10 leaves per stem and with wider leaves (3-7 mm).



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