

Carex of Northeastern Illinois and Northwestern Indiana, USA

WEB VERSION

Sedges (*Carex* spp.) of the Chicago Region

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Volunteer Stewardship Network – Chicago Wilderness

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Group 1.

ONE-HEADED SEDGES:

One solitary spike per inflorescence.



1 *C. jamesii*



2 *C. jamesii*



3 *C. squarrosa*



4 *C. squarrosa*

GRASS SEDGE: spike solitary, tipped with staminate flowers; inflorescence with long, leaf-like lowermost pistillate scale, which resembles the bracts subtending spikes in most other sections; perigynia bodies globose, beak almost conical. Mesic woods.

NARROW-LEAVED CATTAIL SEDGE: spike typically solitary, terminal, always plump with staminate flowers or apparently empty scales at base; perigynia densely packed onto spike, tapered to the base with distinctive shoulders above, abruptly beaked. Wet woods.

Group 2.

HAIRY SEDGES:

Some spikes wholly female; often pedunculate spikes; plant hairy all over, as in *C. hirtifolia* and *C. swanii* (2a); or, only perigynia or foliage pubescent (2b).



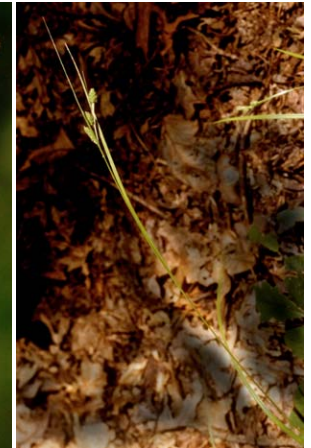
5 *C. hirtifolia*



6 *C. hirtifolia*



7 *C. hirtifolia*



8 *C. swanii*

HAIRY WOOD SEDGE: entire plant softly pubescent, including the distinctly beaked perigynia, which are veinless except for two distinct ribs. Mesic woods.

DOWNY GREEN SEDGE: spikes slender, cylindrical and densely packed with perigynia, sparsely fringed with short awns of pistillate scales; terminal spike tipped w/...



9 *C. swanii*



10 *C. davisii*



11 *C. davisii*



12 *C. davisii*



13 *C. pellita*

DOWNY GREEN SEDGE: ...perigynia; perigynia gray-green, beakless, pubescent with long, spreading hairs. Usually dry open woods (e.g. oak savannas).

AWNED GRACEFUL SEDGE: lower leaf sheaths pubescent; terminal spike tipped with perigynia; pistillate scales prominently awned; perigynia 4.5-6 mm long, short beaked, smooth and chestnut brown when ripe. Wet woods.

BROAD-LEAVED WOOLLY SEDGE: [= *C. lanuginosa*] plants rhizomatous, forming large beds, often blooming mostly at the edges; continued...