



*Carex crawei*. (A) Pistillate scales, (B) perigynia, (C) achenes, (D) inflorescences. A through C: Left—dorsal view; right—ventral view.

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*Carex crawei* Dewey  
Crawe sedge

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**HABIT:** Culms arising singly or few together from well-developed, creeping rhizomes. **Culms:** Slender but stiff, 0.8-3(4) dm tall, exceeding the leaves, slightly **phyllopodic**.

**LEAVES:** 6-12. **Blades:** Stiff, thick, flat, usually recurved-spreading, roughened on the margins towards the apex, 1.5-3 mm wide. **Sheaths:** Tight, hyaline ventrally, occasionally brown-dotted toward the mouth.

**BRACTS:** Lowest leaflike with well-developed sheath, shorter than the inflorescence; upper slightly reduced.

**SPIKES:** 3-5, narrowly oblong to cylindrical, short- to long-pedunculate, green to brown. **Terminal: Staminate**, pedunculate, 1-3 cm long, 2-3 mm wide. **Lateral: Pistillate** or androgynous, 1-3 cm long, 5-6 mm wide, closely flowered, widely separate, the lowest often nearly basal; perigynia 10-45, ascending.

**PISTILLATE SCALES:** Broadly ovate with the midrib often excurrent, equaling or narrower and shorter than the perigynia, reddish brown with hyaline margins and green center.

**PERIGYNIA:** Ovoid or oblong-ovoid, rounded at the sessile base, sometimes flattened on the adaxial side, abruptly contracted at the apex, somewhat terete, yellowish green to light brown, often finely reddish-brown-speckled, 2-3.5 mm long, 1.25-2 mm wide. **Nerves:** Obscure to coarse on both faces, numerous. **Beaks:** Straight, entire or minutely bidentulate, 0.4 mm long.

**ACHENES:** Obovoid, trigonous, stipitate, brown, 1.3-2 mm long, 1.25 mm wide; style deciduous, leaving a straight or bent-recurved apiculus. **Stigmas:** 3.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** Boggy meadows and wet places in **foothills, valleys, and plains**. Often associated with limestone and marlbogs. British Columbia to Quebec and south to Washington (reputedly), Utah (Kane County), Montana, Wyoming, Missouri, and New Jersey. Seldom collected in the Intermountain area. **May-July**.