



*Carex interior*. (A) Inflorescences, (B) pistillate scales, (C) perigynia, (D) achenes. B through D: Left—dorsal view; right—ventral view.

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*Carex interior* Bailey  
Inland sedge

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**HABIT:** Densely tufted from short, dark-colored rhizomes. **Culms:** Slender, firm, wiry, sharply triangular, 1.5-5 dm tall, exceeding the leaves, slightly **aphyllopodic**.

**LEAVES:** 3. **Blades:** Thin, flat or slightly channeled, 1-3 mm wide. **Sheaths:** Tight, membranous, truncate to shallowly concave at the mouth.

**BRACTS:** Small and inconspicuous, scarcely different from the pistillate scales.

**SPIKES:** 2-6, **gynaecandrous**, short sessile, stramineous to reddish brown, approximate or remote. **Terminal:** With a conspicuous, slender, staminate base. **Lateral:** Sometimes wholly pistillate; perigynia few, widely spreading at maturity.

**PISTILLATE SCALES:** Broadly ovoid with an obtuse tip, shorter than the perigynia, yellowish brown with a green center and broad white-hyaline margins, becoming stramineous at maturity.

**PERIGYNIA:** Ovate or triangular-ovate to broadly lance-triangular, plano-convex, plump, firm, somewhat leathery, spongy thickened at the base, shining, olive green becoming brown, 1.9-3.3 mm long, 1.5-2 mm wide. **Nerves:** 4-12 dorsally, 0-7 ventrally; marginal nerves raised proximally, thin edged distally. **Beaks:** Broad, serrulate-margined distally, very shallowly bidentate, 0.5-1.0 mm long.

**ACHENES:** Broadly ovate-orbicular, lenticular, 1.2-1.8 mm long, 0.9-1.5 mm wide, jointed to the short, stout style. **Stigmas:** 2.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** Widely distributed in wet meadows, bogs, swamps, and along streambanks at **moderate to higher elevations**. British Columbia to Labrador and south to California, Utah, northern Mexico, Kansas, and Pennsylvania. Seldom collected in the Intermountain area, but expected in appropriate habitats. **May-August**.

**SIMILAR SPECIES:** See *C. echinata*.