



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

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*Carex whitneyi* Olney  
Whitney sedge

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**SYNONYM:** *C. jepsonii* Howell.

**HABIT:** Densely caespitose from short, stout rhizomes. **Culms:** 2-10 dm tall, exceeding the leaves, **aphyllopodic**.

**LEAVES: Blades:** Flat with somewhat revolute margins, pubescent above and below with long soft hairs, 2-3 mm wide. **Sheaths:** Hyaline and brownish ventrally, deeply concave or V-shaped at the mouth.

**BRACTS:** Lowest leaflike, slightly sheathing, equaling or exceeding the inflorescence; the upper reduced.

**SPIKES:** 3-4, sessile to short-pedunculate, greenish becoming staminate at maturity. **Terminal: Staminate**, linear, 0.5-2 cm long. **Lateral: Pistillate**, oblong or linear, 1-2.5 cm long, 5-7 mm wide, approximate or the lowest separate; perigynia appressed-ascending.

**PISTILLATE SCALES:** Ovate with an acute to short-acuminate tip, shorter to longer than the perigynia, greenish and 3-nerved with hyaline margins.

**PERIGYNIA:** Ovoid, abruptly contracted on both ends, prominently angled, glabrous, green, 3.2-5.5 mm long, 1.5-2.5 mm wide. **Nerves:** Evident on both faces, coarse and somewhat raised, reaching the beak. **Beaks:** Abruptly tapering, bidentate, narrowly white-margined, firm at the bidentate tip, 0.2-1 mm long.

**ACHENES:** Somewhat obovoid, slightly triquetrous, brown, 2.8-3.9 mm long, 1.2-2.4 mm wide. **Stigmas:** 3.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** On somewhat dry, sandy or gravelly flats in meadows or open forest at **middle to high elevations**. Occurs in southern Oregon, California, and western Nevada. **June-July**.