



*Carex arapahoensis*. (A) Inflorescences, (B) pistillate scales, (C) perigynia. B and C: Left—dorsal view; right—ventral view.

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*Carex arapahoensis* Clokey  
Arapaho sedge

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**HABIT:** Densely tufted without creeping rhizomes. **Culms:** Sharply triangular and roughened beneath the head, 1.5-4 dm tall, exceeding the leaves, slightly **aphyllopodic**, old leaf bases persistent.

**LEAVES:** 5-8, clustered toward the base. **Blades:** Slenderly long-tapering distally, flat, thin but firm, 2.3-4 mm wide. **Sheaths:** Tight, hyaline ventrally, usually concave at the mouth.

**BRACTS:** Lowest scalelike with the midrib broad and indurated toward the base and excurrent as a serrulate awn, sheathless, chartaceous, stramineous, shorter than the inflorescence; upper bracts reduced.

**SPIKES:** 3-6, **gynaecandrous**, sessile, 8-12 mm long, densely aggregated into a brown, subglobose head 1-2 cm in diameter; anthers long-persistent; perigynia appressed-ascending.

**PISTILLATE SCALES:** Ovate to broadly ovate with an obtuse to acute tip, appressed, similar in size to the perigynia and nearly concealing them or shorter and narrower, dark chestnut brown with white-hyaline apex and upper margins.

**PERIGYNIA:** Ovate to obovate, widest and serrulate-margined above the middle, abruptly tapering at the apex, plano-convex to very flat, **wing-margined**, often shallowly puckered ventrally, 4-5.5 mm long, 2-2.7 mm wide, dark reddish brown, brown, stramineous, or partly greenish. **Nerves:** Numerous and fine on both faces or nerveless. **Beaks:** Serrulate except at the tip, 1 mm long; tip very short, terete, white-hyaline, obliquely cleft, obscurely bidentate.

**ACHENES:** Broadly oval, lenticular, 1.6-2.1 mm long, 1-1.5 mm wide. **Stigmas:** 2.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** Occasional to frequent on open, often rocky slopes **above timberline**. Southern Wyoming, Utah (La Sal Mountains), and Colorado. **July-August.**