



*Carex concinnoides*. (A) Inflorescences, (B) pistillate scales, (C) perigynia, (D) achenes.

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***Carex concinnoides* Mack.**  
**Northwest sedge**

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**HABIT:** Loosely cespitose from a well-developed system of scaly, brownish black, creeping rhizomes. **Culms:** Slender, erect or somewhat curved, dark purplish brown at the base, 1.5-3.5 dm tall, varying from shorter to longer than the leaves, **aphyllopodic**.

**LEAVES:** 6-10, closely clustered near the base. **Blades:** Thick, firm, flat or channeled, 2-5 mm wide. **Sheaths:** Tight, thin and hyaline ventrally, truncate to shallowly concave at the mouth.

**BRACTS:** Bladeless and sheathless, shorter than the inflorescence; margins hyaline, purplish-red-tinged.

**SPIKES:** 2-4, linear to oblong, sessile or nearly so, bicolored with green and reddish purple. **Terminal: Staminate**, 8-22 mm long, 2-3 mm wide. **Lateral: Pistillate**, erect, approximate, 10-15 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, closely flowered; perigynia 5-10, ascending.

**PISTILLATE SCALES:** Ovate-lanceolate to obovate with an acute to acuminate tip, ciliate, equaling to or narrower and sometimes shorter than the perigynia, dark purplish red with conspicuous white-hyaline margins.

**PERIGYNIA:** Oblong-obovoid, obscurely trigonous, light green with copious, loose pubescence, 2.5-3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide. **Nerves:** Marginally ribbed, otherwise obscure or lacking. **Beaks:** Abrupt, often reddish purple, obliquely cleft, 0.5 mm long.

**ACHENES:** Oblong-obovoid, trigonous or tetragonous, rounded at the top, broadly tapered to the substipitate base, slenderly apiculate, greenish, becoming brownish at maturity, 2-3 mm long, 1.25 mm wide. **Stigmas:** 3 or 4, long, slender, brownish at maturity.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** Frequent to locally common in dry or moist woods or coniferous forests. **Low to moderate elevations.** British Columbia and Alberta south to northern California, central Idaho, and Montana. **April-July.**

**SIMILAR SPECIES:** See appendix, table 6.