

# Don't get us mixed up!

## Spiny rush *Juncus acutus*

V's

## Sea rush *Juncus kraussii*

**WEED!**

*Juncus acutus* (Spiny rush) is an invasive plant of low fertility disturbed areas, coastal flats and other moist low lying areas, including inland areas. Originally from the Mediterranean region, it has adapted to the South East climate.



- Distinctive hemispherical, globe-like tussock shape, to 1.6m high
- Invasive and spreading
- Flower/ seed head 4-13cm long
- Broader, stiffer spreading stems and leaves with a stiff, sharp point
- Larger seed capsule 4-6mm long, filled with comparatively larger seeds (1.3-2mm)



**NATIVE!**

*Juncus kraussii* (Sea rush) is a common native salt marsh species, found only in the coastal areas of temperate Australia and New Zealand. It is not as invasive or prickly and does not impede access to an area.



- More erect, upright tussock shape, to 1.5m high
- Non-invasive
- Not as prickly
- More open seed head to 20cm long
- Smaller seed capsule, 2.5-3mm long, containing hundreds of tiny seeds (0.5-1mm)
- Provides important habitat in low-lying wet coastal areas for other plants and wildlife



## Why is Spiny rush a problem?

Highly invasive • Out competes other vegetation • Unpalatable to stock • Once established, it becomes impenetrable due to its sharp spines • Harbour for vermin, particularly rabbits and foxes • Seeds germinate throughout the year, spreading via water, vehicles, machinery cultivation and soil movement

For more information or advice on how to control Spiny rush and other weeds, contact your local Authorised Officer via Natural Resources South East: (08) 8735 1177; [www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/southeast](http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/southeast)