

2015 December *Guess that Plant*



Rhynchospora capitellata (Michx) Vahl. Brown Beak-sedge

The December *Guess that Plant* is the New Jersey native brown beak-sedge. This sedge is New Jersey's most common member of the genus *Rhynchospora*. It is a common member of wetlands occupying open sands and sandy loams throughout the State. The species identification includes the number of achenes per spikelet and the length of the bristles found along the base of each achene. The plant is identifiable from late July until the winter storms of the year destroy the plant's reservoir of achenes. The mild winter so far experienced by New Jersey will allow our botanists with cabin fever to hunt and discover this important yet common member of the Sedge family.

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