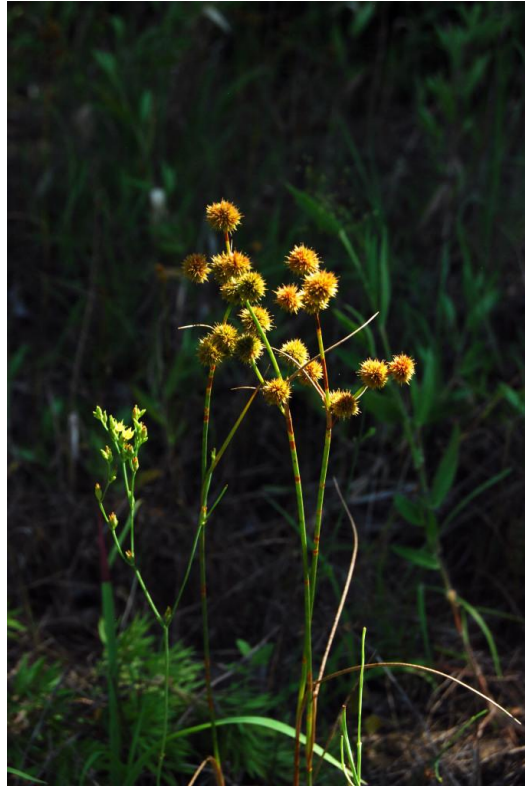


2020 August *Guess that Plant*



Juncus scirpoides Lam., Needlepod Rush

The August 2020 *Guess that Plant* was a native rush common to New Jersey's Coastal Plain. Needlepod rush specific Latin name *scirpoides* is a moniker based on its hemispherical flowering heads that resemble to the sedge genus *Scirpus*. The species is a wetland perennial at home on field edges as well as along pond shorelines. USDA and Hough (1983) identify the plant has vouchers from every Coastal Plain county with the exception of Mercer and Salem. The photo used for this month's quiz is from a well established Carneys Point populations providing evidence of its existence in Salem County. *Juncus scirpoides* flowering heads are small and stiff. This stiffness provides a "hands on" identification clue.

JRA 8/2020