

# *Bolboschoenus medianus*



*Bolboschoenus medianus*.  
Tasmanian Herbarium specimen.

**FAMILY:** CYPERACEAE

**BOTANICAL NAME:** *Bolboschoenus medianus*,  
(V.Cook) Soják, *Cas. Nár. Mus. Odd. Prir.* 141:  
63 (1972)

**COMMON NAME:** marsh clubsedge

**COMMONWEALTH STATUS:** (EPBC Act) Not  
Listed

**TASMANIAN STATUS:** (TSP Act) rare

## Description

A perennial sedge between 30-60 cm high. **Underground section:** A woody horizontal underground stem with enlarged sections of root (tubers), which are spherical in shape. **Stems:** The stems are lime-green and usually grow in a dense cluster. They are between 30-90 cm high and triangular in cross-section. **Leaves:** The leaves are arranged alternately all the way up the stem. The leaf blades spread widely and are approximately 30 cm long and 5 mm wide. They taper to a point. The stems also have long, closed, leathery sheaths. **Seedhead:** The seedhead is a compact head of 1-6 spikelets (units) near the stem tip. Flowering occurs from February to May. **Spikelets (units of the seedhead):** The spikelets are egg-shaped, between 1-2 cm long and mid-brown. **Seed (nut):** The nut is between 3-4 mm long and oval-shaped. They are either triangular in cross-section or flattened. The nut is greyish-black and shiny (description from Curtis & Morris 1994). Herbarium specimens have been collected from October to February. **This species was previously known as *Scirpus fluviatilis* (sensu J.H.Willis 1973).**

## Ecology and Management

*Bolboschoenus medianus* can reproduce vegetatively from rhizomes (underground horizontal stems). It persists after grazing and general disturbance (TPLUC 1996).

Wind is the most likely pollination vector for this species (A. Hingston pers. comm.).

## Conservation Status Assessment

*Bolboschoenus medianus* should be reassessed due to the low number of records though more information may be required for a meaningful reassessment.

**Further Information**

- Curtis, WM & Morris, DI 1994, *The Student's Flora of Tasmania*, Part 4B, Printing Authority of Tasmania, Hobart.
- Jessop, JP & Toelken, HR 1986, *Flora of South Australia, Part IV (Alismataceae to Orchidaceae)*, South Australian Printing Division, Adelaide.
- Tasmanian Public Land Use Commission 1996, *Environment & Heritage Report Vol IV, Background Report*, Part C, Tasmanian Commonwealth Regional Forest Agreement, Hobart.

*Preceding text last modified 2/9/2003.*

*Following updated 15/9/2016.*

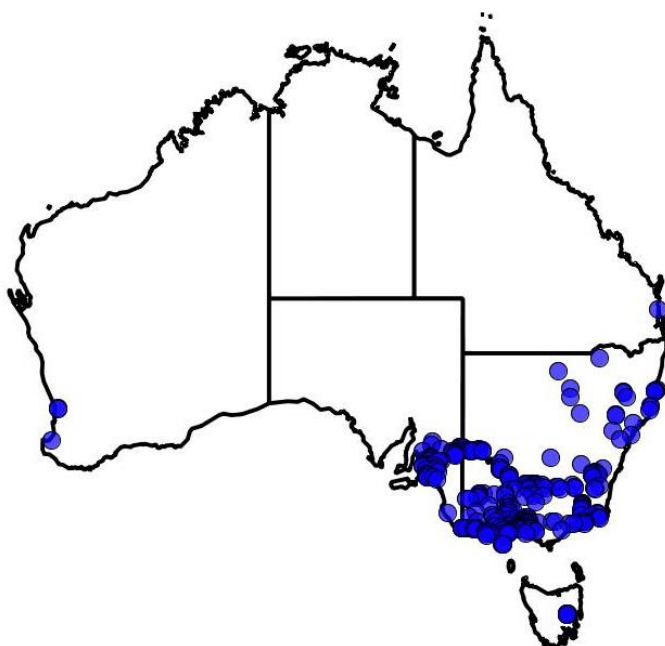
**Survey Time and Habitat Guide** (black = best, dark grey = possible, light grey with slash=poor time to survey, as guided by collection dates of specimens and records)

<i>Bolboschoenus medianus</i>	Spring				Summer				Autumn				Winter											
marsh clubsedge	S	S	O	O	N	N	D	D	J	J	F	F	M	M	A	A	M	M	J	J	J	J	A	A

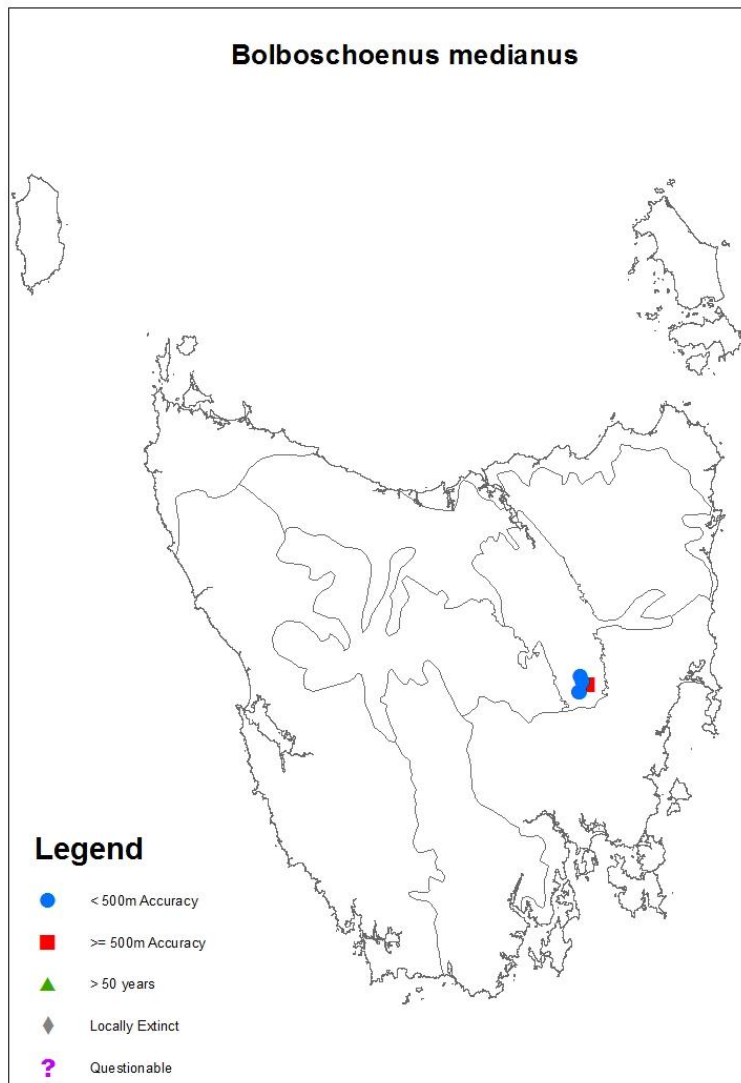
- Most observations of this perennial sedge have been made from November to mid-February. Inflorescences (ideally with mature fruit) are required for identification, though plants of this species do not flower regularly.
- In Tasmania, *Bolboschoenus medianus* inhabits the margins of inland saline lagoons where it is often rooted in heavy black mud.

**Distribution**

(Atlas of Living Australia 15/9/2016. The species also occurs in New Zealand)



**Tasmanian Distribution**  
(Natural Values Atlas May 2017)



**Cite as:**

Threatened Species Section (2016). *Notesheet for Bolboschoenus medianus (marsh clubsedge)*. Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania.

**View**

<http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/threatenedspecieslists>

**Contact details**

Threatened Species Section, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 7001. Phone (03) 6165 4340.

**Permit**

It is an offence to collect, disturb, damage or destroy this species unless under permit.