

## **Low Nutrush** ***Scleria verticillata***

**Habitat Preference:** Calcareous fens

**Blooms:** July to September

**Fruits:** Small, white, ridged, rounded fruits mature during August to October.

**Threats:**

- Grazing can cause trampling and compaction that allow for the invasion of non-native plant species.
- Draining to try and convert the area to an agricultural field. Many times even after draining an area it is still too wet to farm, but the fen has been destroyed.
- Tilling
- Poor upland management that allows for sediment and chemicals to enter into the fen.
- Encroachment of woody species

**Habitat Improvement Guidelines:**

- Leave an appropriate grassland buffer around all fens to filter chemicals and silt out of runoff before it reaches the fen.
- Protect remaining fens from drainage.
- Fence cattle out of fens.
- Control the invasion of non-native plant species by hand pulling or spot spraying.
- Control woody species encroachment by cutting, girdling and stump treatment.