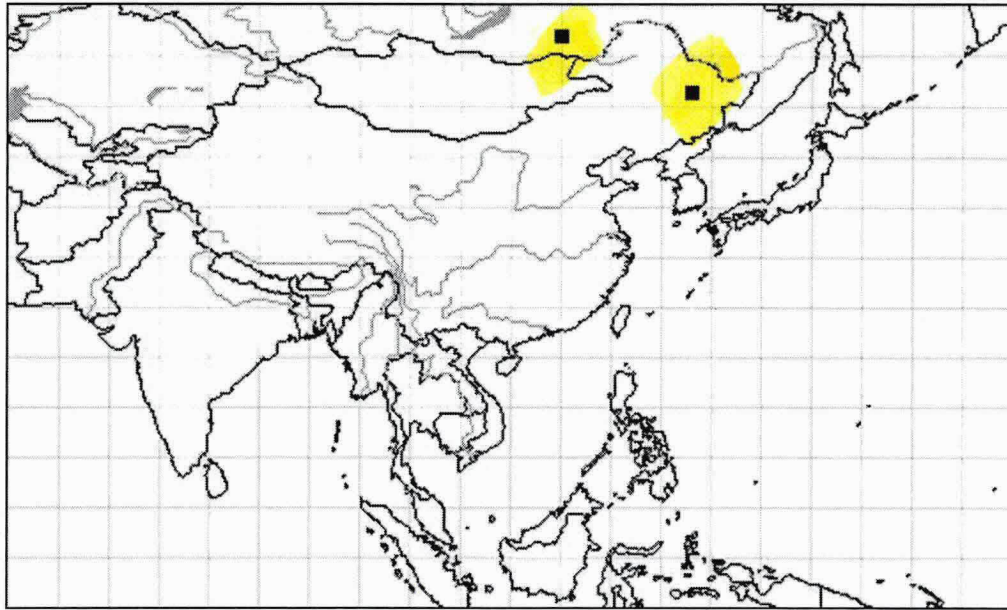


Map of *Carex aperta*



Provided by Missouri Botanical Garden

German 1962 unpub.

Carex Cyperaceae **Hay sedge.** A slender, densely tufted plant forming extensive meadows on overflowed bottom lands in the valley of the Columbia and its tributaries. Largely cut for hay and regarded by farmers as the best forage sedge. Common about Columbia Slough etc. June-August.

aperta

Howell (1897-1903; as *C. bovina*) wrote that this sedge formed "extensive meadows of many acres...on lands that are overflowed by the Columbia River in June." Piper and Beattie (1915) referred to it as "the common 'hay sedge' of the Columbia River bottoms." The extensive meadows have completely disappeared because of diking, farming, and displacement by exotic cultivars of *Phalaris arundinacea*. Only a few patches no larger than about 1 acre remain, the best known occurring in Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. The species itself is not rare in the Portland area, but it is never plentiful. It occurs as scattered individuals or in small patches along the Columbia and Willamette rivers, growing at elevations just below black cottonwood.

- Summary
- Conservation Status
- Distribution
- Comprehensive
- Image



Ecological Association Comprehensive Report: Record 1 of 2

selected.

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---Jump to Section---

Carex aperta Herbaceous Vegetation

Translated Name: Columbian Sedge Herbaceous Vegetation

Common Name: Columbian Sedge Wet Meadow

Unique Identifier: CEG001801

Classification Approach: International Vegetation Classification (IVC)

Summary: This plant association occupies lake shores, river floodplains, and wet meadows in western and south-western Washington. It occurs in low lying areas with prolonged seasonal flooding. The association is characterised by pure stands of *Carex aperta* with lesser amounts of *Poa palustris*, *Argentina anserina* (= *Potentilla anserina*), *Bide frondosa*, *Ludwigia palustris*, *Polygonum amphibium*, and *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.

Classification

---Jump to Section---

Classification Confidence: 2 - Moderate

Classification Comments: Classification is based on field data collected in Washington and Montana as of 1998. Limited data are available to determine if stands in Washington and Oregon represent the same plant association reported in Montana.

| Vegetation Hierarchy | |
|----------------------|--|
| Formation Class | V - Herbaceous Vegetation |
| Formation Subclass | V.A - Perennial graminoid vegetation |
| Formation Group | V.A.5 - Temperate or subpolar grassland |
| Formation Subgroup | V.A.5.N - Natural/Semi-natural temperate or subpolar grassland |
| Formation Name | V.A.5.N.m - Saturated temperate or subpolar grassland |
| Alliance Name | <i>Carex aperta</i> Saturated Herbaceous Alliance |

Related Concepts from Other Classifications

---Jump to Section---

| Other Related Concepts | |
|--|--|
| Related Concept Name: <i>Carex aperta</i> | |
| Relationship: = - Equivalent | |
| Reference: Bourgeron, P. S., and L. D. Engelking, editors. 1994. A preliminary vegetation classification of the western United States. Unpublished report. The Nature Conservancy, Western Heritage Task Force, Boulder, CO. 175 pp. plus appendix. | |

Ecological Systems Placement

---Jump to Section---

Ecological Systems Placement

| Ecological System Unique ID | Ecological System Name |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CES204.874 | Willamette Valley Wet Prairie |
| CES306.812 | Rocky Mountain Alpine-Montane Wet Meadow |

NatureServe Conservation Status

---Jump to Section---

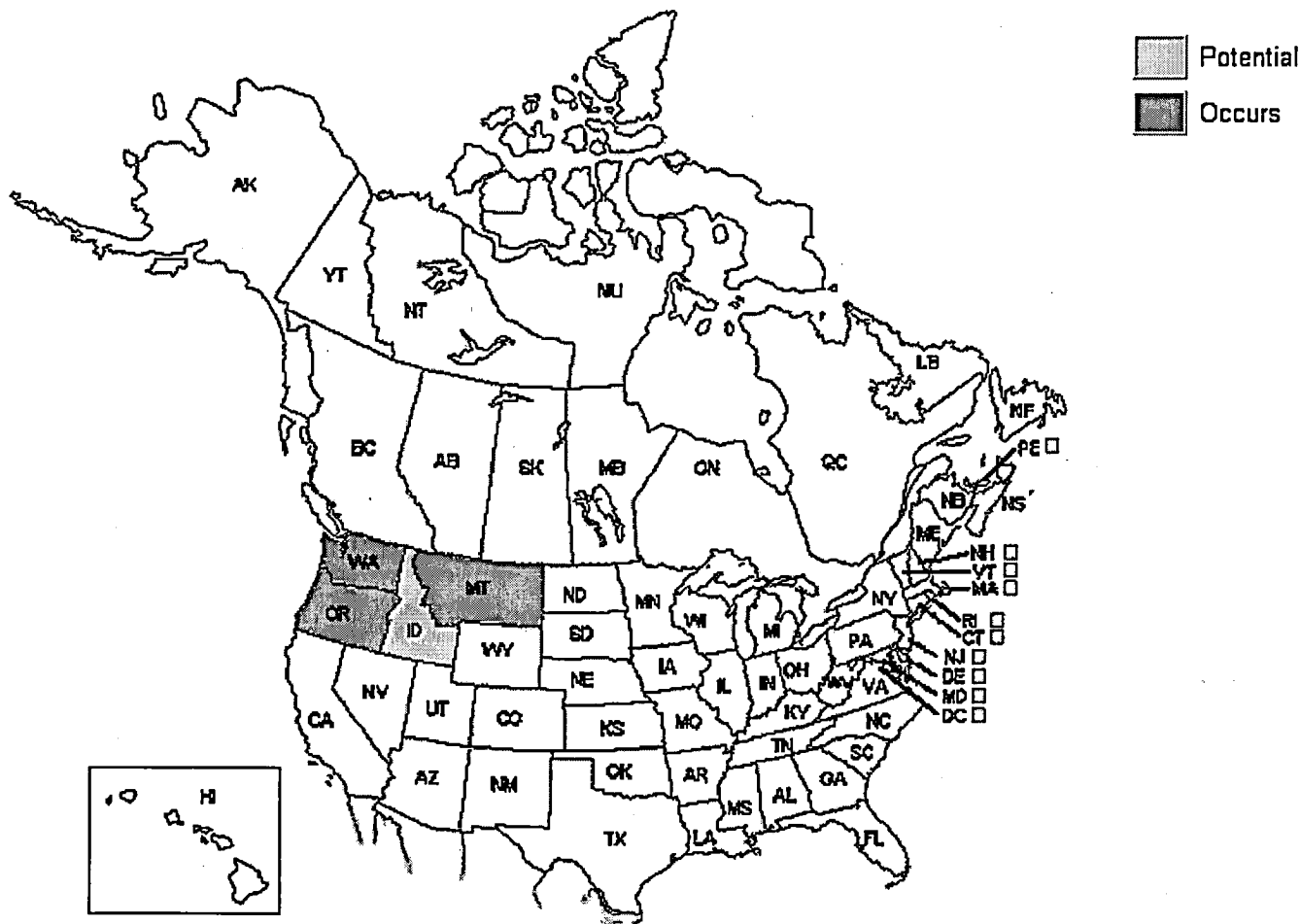
Global Status: G1? (30Nov1998)

Rounded Global Status: G1

Reasons: *Carex aperta* Herbaceous Vegetation (CEGL001801) occurs in areas that are saturated through growing season on floodplains and the shorelines of lakes. It was reported as being historically widespread in Washington, but its extent has been reduced by flood control, grazing, and invasion of exotic species. Only in Washington, Oregon and western Montana are currently known to occur. None have been found in Idaho there is not complete. The majority of the known stands were reported as being in poor condition. In Oregon reported as coastal and may represent an association that is distinct from the inland stands.

Distribution

---Jump to Section---





***Carex aperta* Boott**
Columbian sedge

Symbol: CAAP3
 Group: Monocot
 Family: Cyperaceae
 Growth Habit: Graminoid
 Duration: Perennial
 U.S. Nativity: Native

Plant Synonyms:

CAAP3 *Carex aperta* Boott

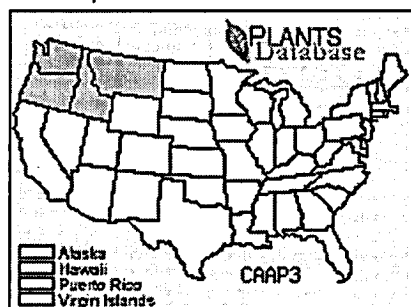
- CAAC9 *Carex accedens* Holm
- CAACT *Carex acutina* Bailey var. *tenuior* Bailey
- CASTV *Carex stylosa* C.A. Mey. var. *virens* Bailey
- CATU9 *Carex turgidula* Bailey

Additional Information is available for:

Carex aperta Boott
 Plant Characteristic Report

Plant Distribution by State

Carex aperta Boott



County distributions for the following states are available in the PLANTS database:

© Image generated using gd 1.8

Wetland Indicator Status:

Carex aperta Boott

| Nat. Ind. | Reg. 1 | Reg. 2 | Reg. 3 | Reg. 4 | Reg. 5 | Reg. 6 | Reg. 7 | Reg. 8 | Reg. 9 | Reg. 0 | Reg. A | Reg. C | Reg. H |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| FACW | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | FACW | FACW | NO | NO | NO | NO |

Taxonomic Hierarchy for:

Carex aperta Boott

- Kingdom Plantae— Plants
- Subkingdom Tracheobionta— Vascular plants
- Superdivision Spermatophyta— Seed plants
- Division Magnoliophyta— Flowering plants
- Class Liliopsida— Monocotyledons
- Subclass Commelinidae—
- Order Cyperales—
- Family Cyperaceae— Sedge family
- Genus *Carex* L.— sedge
- Species *Carex aperta* Boott— Columbian sedge

Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS)

Taxonomic Serial Number for *Carex aperta* Boott:
 39496

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Community Field Guide

Scientific Name:

Carex aperta Herbaceous Vegetation

Common Name:

Columbia sedge Wet Meadow

Community Description**Summary:**

This plant association occupies lake shores, river floodplains, and wet meadows in western and south-central Montana, and western Washington. It occurs in low lying areas with prolonged seasonal flooding. The association is characterized by nearly pure stands of *Carex aperta* with lesser amounts of *Poa palustris*, *Argentina anserina* (= *Potentilla anserina*), *Bidens cernua*, *Bidens frondosa*, *Ludwigia palustris*, *Polygonum amphibium*, and *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.

Range:

The association is known from western Washington, Oregon, western Montana, and south-central Montana.

Global Rank: G1?

State Rank: S?

Global Rank Comments:

Carex aperta Herbaceous Vegetation (CEGL001801) occurs in areas that are saturated throughout the growing season on floodplains and the shorelines of lakes. It was reported as being historically widespread in Washington, but its extent has been reduced by flood control, grazing, and invasion of exotic species.

Only a few stands are currently known to occur in Washington, Oregon and western Montana. None have been found in Idaho, but inventory there is not complete. The majority of the known stands were reported as being in poor condition. In Oregon, stands are reported as coastal and may represent an association that is distinct from the inland stands.

Community References**Identifier:**

CEGL001801

Author:

M. Jankovsky-Jones

Citations:

Boggs et al. 1990, Bourgeron and Engelking 1994, Driscoll et al. 1984, Hansen et al. 1991, Hansen et al. 1995, Kunze 1994

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