

Temperate worldwide, mostly in wet areas. Often found where sedges are common.

Grassy herbs, mostly perennials in our area. Stems are usually round in cross-section, and leaves sometimes only basal, sometimes reduced to sheaths only. Leaf sheaths open. No ligule, but may have auricles at leaf-sheath junction. The small, 3-merous flowers remind one of tiny lily blossoms with 3 outer bracts and 3 inner bracts (or 6 tepals, or perianth). Flowers are not in true spikes, but may be clustered in some species. Fruit is a dry capsule that resembles a miniature lily pod and contains many seeds.

In your area: *Juncus* (rush). *Luzula* (woodrush, sweetgrass).

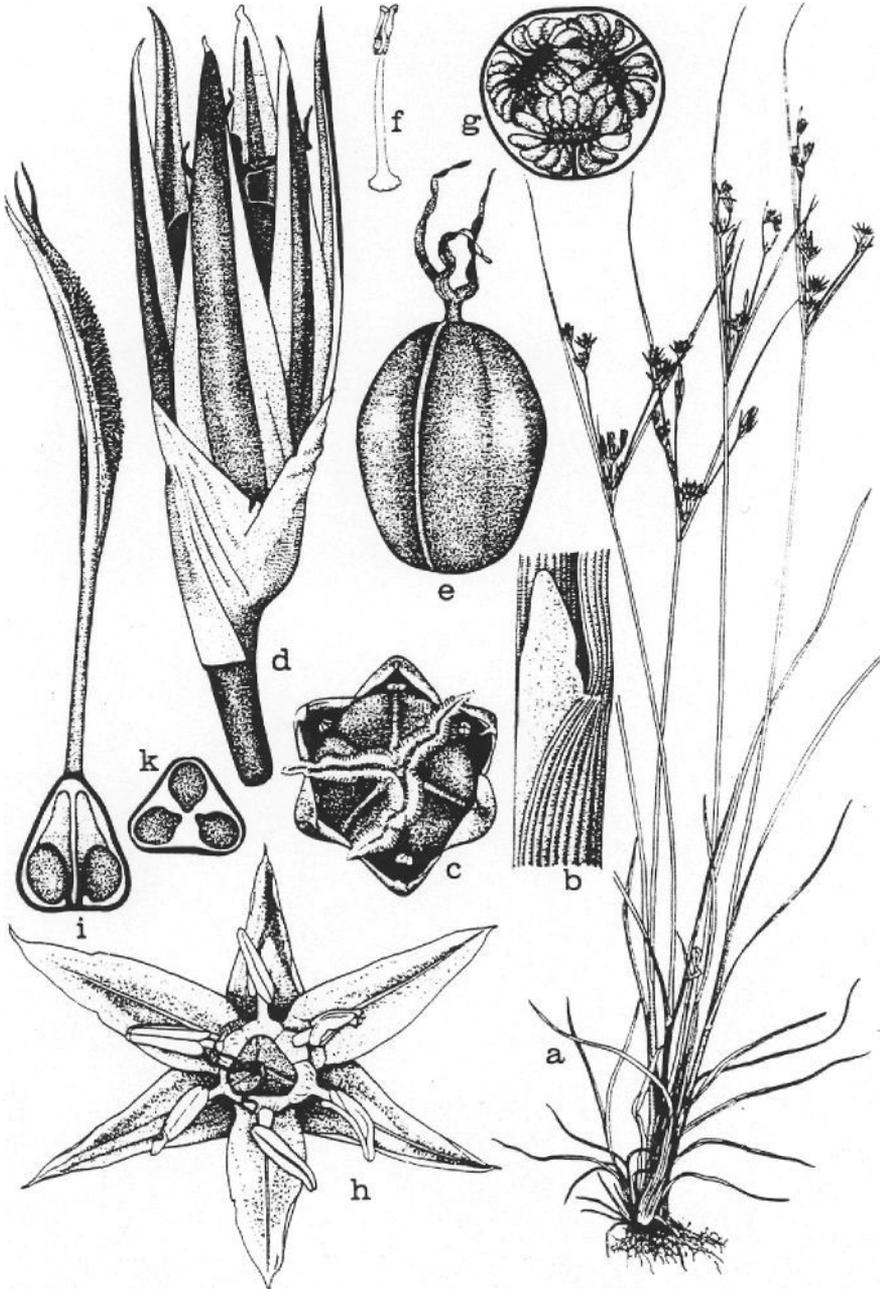


Fig. 9.6 Juncaceae. a-g, *Juncus tenuis* Willd. a. habit,  $\times \frac{1}{2}$ ; b. nodal region, with auricle,  $\times 8$ ; c. flower from above, after anthesis,  $\times 16$ ; d. side view of flower after anthesis, with percent bracteoles and tepals,  $\times 16$ ; e. pistil,  $\times 16$ ; f. stamen,  $\times 16$ ; g. schematic cross-section of ovary,  $\times 16$ . h-k, *Luzula acuminata* Raf. h. flower, from above,  $\times 8$ ; i. pistil, in partial long-section,  $\times 16$ ; k. schematic cross-section of ovary,  $\times 16$ .