

Baumea rubiginosa
now *Machaerina rubiginosa*
 soft or long-stemmed twigrush

Ann Moran
Field Botanist



ETYMOLOGY

(BO-me-a) After Antoine Baume 1728-1804 professor of Chemistry; The Latin species *rubiginosa* (roo-bee-gee-NO-sah) rusty refers to the rusty underside of leaves;

LIFEFORM

Sedge 2-4m x 2 m Spread

STATUS

Scattered throughout South West WA extends north to Perth and east to Esperance WA

OCCURS

Brindabella Park Peregrine Springs Q, NSW, Vic, Fleurieu Peninsula SA, WA, NT (NG, Indonesia, Solomon Is, Java, Sumatra, Philippines, Malaya)

HABITAT

Ephemeral Wetlands, Streams, Swamps

LEAVES

Basal, blades erect hairless shining; sheaths are yellowish-brown; Pleated base triangular stem:

FLOWERS

Spikelets, 4-7 x 1-2 mm; aggregated deciduous; glabrous; 2-3 flowers; 3 angled Style base straight. Stigmas three, ovoid; brown. Perianth absent. Stamens 3. Anthers linear;

connective smooth. **Flowering Times** July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March

connective smooth. **Flowering Times** July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March

FRUIT Nuts, 2-3 x 1-2 mm, reddish dark brown, hispid with simple hairs apex apiculate; Seeds

Nuts, 2-3 x 1-2 mm, reddish dark brown, hispid with simple hairs apex apiculate; Seeds

3 mm ovoid golden brown with shiny smooth surface; **Fruiting Times** Nov, Dec

3 mm ovoid golden brown with shiny smooth surface; **Fruiting Times** Nov, Dec

ROOTS Rhizomatous

Rhizomatous

STEM Robust perennial sedge with erect tufted rounded stems

Robust perennial sedge with erect tufted rounded stems

LANDSCAPE	Useful in artificial wetlands; Good for taking up of nutrients (pollution); Plant at depth of 70 cm; planting rate 1-6 per sq m;
------------------	--

Useful in artificial wetlands; Good for taking up of nutrients (pollution); Plant at depth of 70 cm; planting rate 1-6 per sq m;

TOLERANCE Tolerates brackish water:

Tolerates brackish water:

WILDLIFE Protect habitat for waterbirds, frogs and toads reaching the water; Fruits (nuts) are food source for waterbirds; Seeds eaten by Ground Parrot;

Protect habitat for waterbirds, frogs and toads reaching the water; Fruits (nuts) are food source for waterbirds; Seeds eaten by Ground Parrot;

BUTTERFLY *Hesperilla furva* Grey Sedge Skipper

Hesperilla furva Grey Sedge Skipper

ID FEATURE	Stems biconvex in cross section + involucre bracts flattened at least at apex + Spikelets in dense, discrete clusters on inflorescence branches + Nut 3-5 mm, smooth shining, pale red-brown, bright orange at maturity, trigonous;
-------------------	---

Stems biconvex in cross section + involucre bracts flattened at least at apex + Spikelets in dense, discrete clusters on inflorescence branches + Nut 3-5 mm, smooth shining, pale red-brown, bright orange at maturity, trigonous;

