

# Lake sedge

*Carex lacustris*

Minnesota C-Value: 5  
Wetland Indicator Status: OBL  
Native



**Leaves:** Leaves as long as flower stem (1-1.25 m). Coarse, strongly M-shaped in cross-section, 8-20 mm wide, blue-green in color, lower leaves disintegrate into ladder-like network of fibers. Sheaths smooth.

**Stems:** Rough to the touch. Triangular with dark red, rhizomatous base.

**Flowers and fruit:** Upper spikes male, lower female (2-4 male and 2-4 female spikes). Male spikes are short-lived. Female scales awned and tapered at tip, thin, translucent to brown in color, and shorter than perigynia.

**Plant communities:** marshes, shrub-carrs, sedge meadows, lake edges.

**Comments:** Perennial, may form dense colonies. Has similar habitat and appearance to slough sedge (*C. atherodes*) - but slough sedge typically has hairy sheaths.