

## *Bulbostylis barbata* (Rottb.) C.B.Clarke

### Family:

Cyperaceae

Clarke, C.B. in Hooker, J.D. (1894) *The Flora of British India* 6: 651.

### Common name:

Watergrass

### Stem

Tufted sedge with glabrous stems 5-30 cm tall.

### Leaves

Leaves shorter than the stems and curve downwards; leaf sheath with long white hairs; lamina longitudinally ridged.

### Flowers

Inflorescence capitate, with 3-20 spikelets, 5-15 mm across; involucre bracts 2-3, filiform, basal bract erect; spikelets sessile ovate to oblong; glumes reddish brown, strongly keeled; keels on glomes greenish, margins of glumes toothed in the upper half, mucro on glumes curved outwards; stigma shorter than the style.

### Fruit

Seed triquetrous, obovate in outline, very smooth and white to cream coloured, 0.5-0.75 mm long.

### Seedlings

Features not available.

### Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA, NT, CYP, NEQ and CEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 580 m. Grows in sclerophyll forest, open forest, deciduous vine thicket, riverbeds, dune scrub and woodland. Widely distributed over the warm parts of the Old World, also in USA.

### Natural History & Notes

Can occur as a pioneer plant in disturbed areas.

### Synonyms

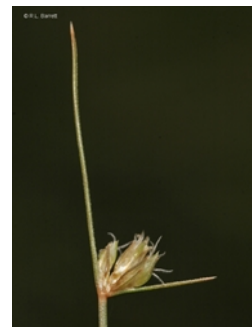
*Scirpus barbatus* Rottb., *Descriptiones Plantarum Rariorum* : 27(1772).

### RFK Code

4191



Inflorescence. © R.L. Barrett



Inflorescence. © R.L. Barrett



Whole plant, leaves and inflorescences. © R.L. Barrett



Herbarium specimen. © DERM



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