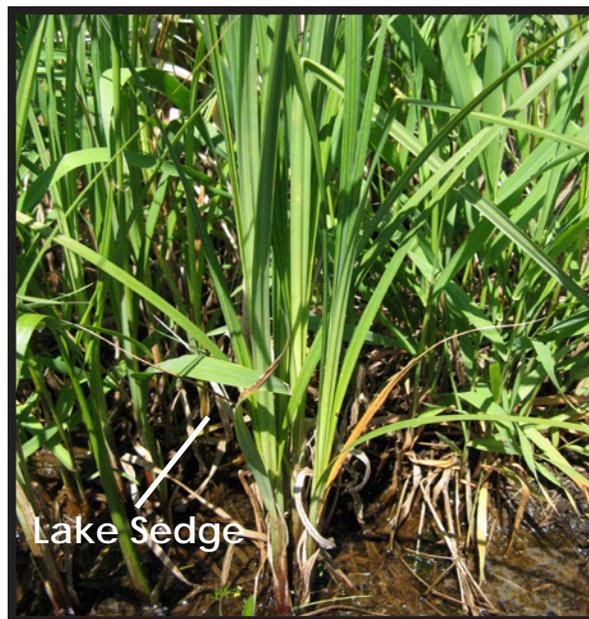


Lake sedge

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.