

CLIMBERS AND SCRAMBLERS

Calystegia tuguriorum	Muehlenbeckia complexa
Clematis afoliata	Parsonsia capsularis
Clematis quadribracteolata	Rubus schmidelioides
Muehlenbeckia australis	

FERNS

Asplenium flabellifolium	Polystichum richardii
Asplenium flaccidum	Pteridium aquilinum var. esculentum

+ one other not collected or identified:

RUSHES AND SEDGES

Carex flagellifera	Juncus gregiflorus
Carex virgata	Uncinia leptostachya
Juncus distegus	

ADVENTIVE SEDGES

Juncus articulatus	Juncus?effusus
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ADVENTIVE GRASSES (Incomplete)

Agrostis sp. (possibly A. gigantea or A. stolonifera)	Rytidosperma caespitosum	
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Rytidosperma racemosum	
Glyceria declinata	Cynosurus echinatus } collected	
Hordeum geniculatum	Phleum pratense } out of	
H. glaucum		the gully

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FRONTICEPIECE

John Thompson

The fronticepiece, drawn by Cecil Dunn, is of Eleocharis gracilis, a member of the Cyperaceae. It is a wet lands plant reaching some 15cms tall, usually less, in Canterbury. Its name derives from the Greek helos, swamp and kharis, grace or charm, equalling "The charm of the swamp" or "swamp ornament".

The creeping rhizome is stout and is ensheathed at each node . by a large dark red bract. Its culms are erect or curved and its inflorescence, not always present, is solitary and terminal.

It can be confused with two other species of Eleocharis. E. acuta is the most common dweller of Canterbury wet places. It can

be distinguished by looking at the top edge of the leaf sheath. This is thickened, usually truncate, and bears a distinct sharp point. In both E. gracilis and E. pusilla this top edge is oblique, is scarcely thickened, if at all, and bears no sharp point.

E. pusilla has more slender rhizomes and culms than E. gracilis. To be quite certain of your identification you must open the inflorescence. In E. gracilis will be found 4 to 8 slender hypogynous bristles which, as the name implies, are borne below the ovary. I have not seen hypogynous bristles in E. pusilla though 2 to 3 may be found.

Eleocharis gracilis can be seen locally in Chaney forest, Bottle Lake Park and in the swamps of Mt. Herbert. Considerable areas were noticed during the Society's camp at Cass growing happily in the very wet areas on the southern shores of Lake Sarah.

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#### THE RIGHT TIME TO TAKE CUTTINGS

Jessie McCully

I say when you can get them. My mother grew her new roses from the cuttings off the flowers she was given. I follow suit. My cutting bed on the south side of the house was most successful but now I have to use containers and I use an ordinary potting mix. Keep the mix damp not wet and use a glass or plastic jar to keep the cutting from drying out while the new roots form. This will take up to a year with some plants. Do not disturb until signs of roots or new growth are apparent. If I were a commercial grower it would pay to keep notes as certain plants are very definite in their habits of growth.

The Commercial Grower takes Tip Cuttings (in sand with underground heat) but I like the bigger ones in fact with some plants as thick as a pencil. Most garden books have a chapter on cuttings and they are well worth reading.

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#### FURTHER SIGNS OF THINGS PAST

R. Mason

In last years Journal it was told how at the 10 foot contour line on Hudson Road there are still growing a number of plants that indicate the old high water level of the brackish Lake Ellesmere. During a stop at that locality in the course of the Society's February field trip to the Lake in the vicinity of the Greenpark Huts a further three plants were found that are indicative of saline conditions: the natives Salicornia australis and Triglochin