JUNCACEAE
Luzula hitchcockii Hamet-Ahti
previously
Luzula glabrata (Hoppe)Desv.
Luhi
smooth woodrush

FORM: A short, rhizomatous, grasslike perennial, 15-50cm (6-20in) tall, with round, hollow culms.

LEAVES: Shiny, 4-10mm broad and 2-6cm (1-2in) long, with flattened, reddish-brown tips; often becoming mottled with rusty red in midsummer; basal leaves purplish-tinged, usually hairy at base; sheaths closed.

INFLORESCENCE: Solitary, small flowers, deep brown to purplish-brown, borne in open, nodding panicles, 3-8cm (1-3in) long; July-Sept.

FRUIT: Reddish-brown capsule with three seeds (1).

SIMILAR SPECIES: Luzula Conspectus, p.213.

HABITAT: High elevation sites with deep late-melting snowpack.