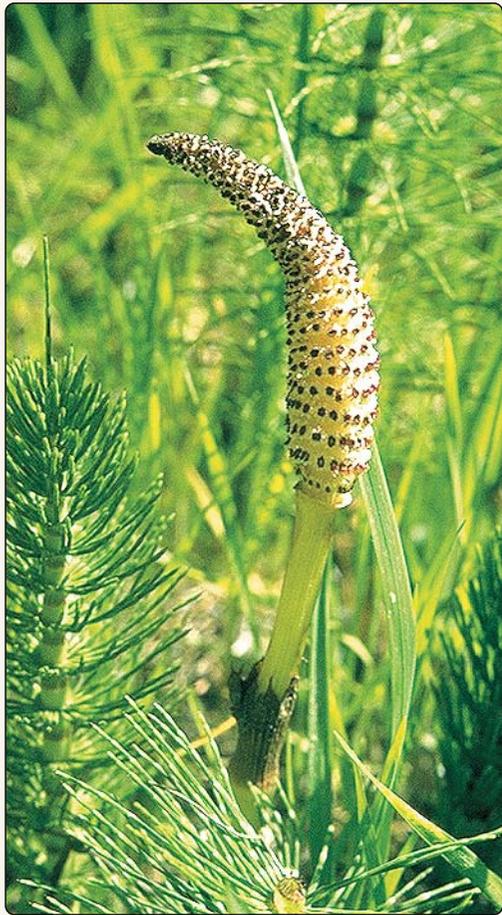


## Rough horsetail (*Equisetum hyemale*)



*Spore-bearing body*

Rough horsetail is an evergreen perennial fern ally that grows to just over a metre in height and dies down in winter. It is similar and related to field horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*). Its preferred habitats are wet river banks and moist fields.

Rush-like in appearance, the plant has a green, jointed stem that is ridged and cylindrical and may terminate in a spore-bearing body resembling a pinecone. Rough horsetail reproduces by spores and vegetatively by rhizomes. These rhizome systems are extensive, making control difficult.

Chemical control varies in its effectiveness. Weed mat, maintained over a long period of time, may give some control.

**Rough horsetail is very rare in New Zealand. Any suspected new infestations should be reported immediately to your Regional Council.**