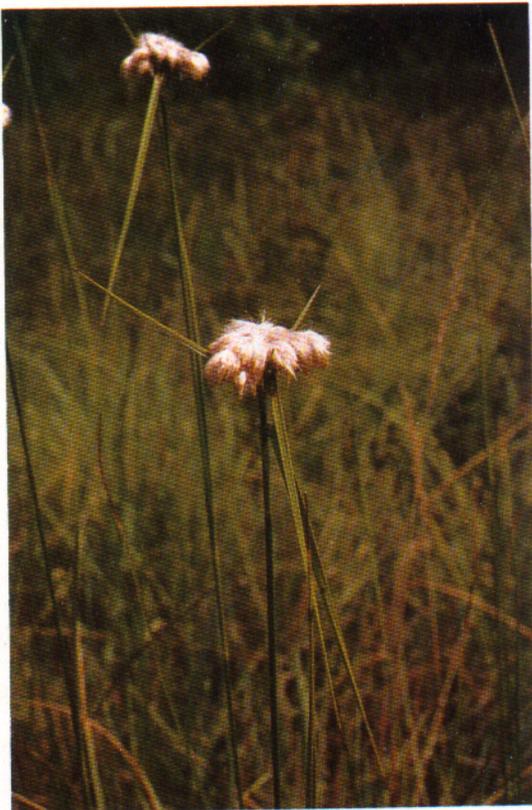


COTTON-GRASS
Eriophorum spp

Located in bogs primarily in the northern states and common to the arctic tundra. A few of the 10 species of North America are found in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey and *E. virginicum* is found as far south as Florida. Also known as Bog-Cotton and Cotton-Rush.

Perennial sedges with erect, triangular or nearly round cross-sectioned, unbranched stems. The leaves are linear, grass-like or in some species the upper one or two are reduced to bladeless sheaths. The stems terminate in a single or cluster of cottony-bristled flower heads; color varies from bright white to cream or dingy brown. Many of the species have one or more leaf-like bracts originating at the base of the flower heads.



E. virginicum has stiff, slender, smooth stems; 0.4 to 1.2 m high. Leaves are flat except becoming v-shaped at the top, the uppermost with tight sheaths. The flower heads are crowded in a dense cluster which is wider than high, dingy brown and subtended by 2 to 5 leaf-like bracts.

E. virginicum