Field horsetail

*Equisetum arvense* L.

**Life cycle**
Perennial spore-producing plant.

**Leaves**
Not present.

**Stems**
Vegetative stems are green and branch in whorls. Stems may have a bottle-brush appearance and should not exceed 2 feet in height. Stems die back to the ground in winter.

**Flowers and fruit**
Erect, unbranched, white to brown fruiting stalks (stems) bear terminal spore-releasing cones. Flowers are not produced.

**Reproduction**
Spores and prolific rhizomes.

Patch of field horsetail fruiting and vegetative stems.

**Similar weeds**
Scouringrush (*E. hyemale* L.)
Differs by having larger evergreen stems with little or no branching. Grows only in wet areas.

Equisetaceae (Horsetail family)