



## *Poa anceps*

### Common Name(s):

Broad-leaved poa

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: Three Kings, North and South Islands (north and western coasts as far south as George Sound, on Banks Peninsula in the east).

### Habitat:

Coastal, lowland to subalpine. On coastal and inland cliffs, on rock falls, in open forest, scrub and grassland

### Features\*:

Very variable, coarse, light green, greenish brown to bluish green perennial tufted grass to 1 m, with stiff erect leaves < stems, or often scrambling and trailing to 2 m, with hanging leaves and stems drooping from thick stolons, rooting at nodes below tufts; branching extravaginal, with up to three, short, glabrous, obtuse, bract-like sheaths at base; leaf-blades persistent. Leaf-sheath light green to light brown, coriaceous, folded and strongly keeled, lateral ribs conspicuous, smooth or slightly scabrid above, rarely minutely scabrid throughout. Ligule 0.5 mm, a truncate usually long-ciliate rim, scabrid abaxially. Leaf-blade coriaceous, folded to flat, Leaf-blade 100-400 × 1.0-6.5 mm, abaxially with prominent, thickened midrib, and numerous, distinct lateral ribs, smooth apart from prickle-teeth near tip; upper surface smooth, or scabrid on ribs, rarely papillose-scabrid, occasionally with fringe of stiff short hairs above ligule; margins smooth or scabrid, thickened, tip acuminate or abruptly acute, often pungent, scabrid. Culm 150-700 mm, often not far exerted beyond uppermost leaf-sheath, internodes glabrous. Panicle 100-280 mm, usually open with numerous spreading branches, sometimes contracted, branches whorled, very slender; rachis and primary branches often smooth, secondary branchlets finely, sharply, densely or sparsely scabrid or smooth, often spikelet-bearing ± throughout. Spikelets numerous, 3.0-7.5 mm, 2-8-flowered light green. Glumes subequal, narrow-to elliptic-lanceolate, acute to subobtuse, occasionally smooth throughout, or upper 2/3 scabrid; lower slightly shorter, lower glume 2.0-4.5 mm, 3-nerved, upper 2.5-5.0 mm, 3-nerved. Lemma 3.0-4.5 mm, 5-7-nerved, elliptic-oblong, acute to subobtuse, internerves finely scaberulous throughout, occasionally only minutely papillose, bearing short crinkled hairs on lower 1/2 of midnerve and near base of outer lateral nerves; margins minutely scabrid. Palea 2.5-4.0 mm, keels finely scabrid, interkeel and flanks smooth or minutely scabrid. Callus with thick tuft of soft crinkled hairs. Rachilla c.0.5 mm, smooth or minutely, sparsely scabrid; prolongation c. twice as long. Lodicules c.0.5 mm, occasionally hair-tipped. Anthers 1.5-2.5 mm. Seed c.2.0 × 0.5 mm.

### Flowering:

September - December

### Fruiting:

November - May

### Threats:

Not Threatened

### \*Attribution:

Description modified Edgar and Connor (2000).

### References and further reading:

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Christchurch, Manaaki Whenua Press. 650 pp.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1150](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1150)



**Caption:** Maungapakeha taipo, Wairarapa. Nov 2004.

**Photographer:** Barbara Mitcalfe



**Caption:** Eastbourne Hills. Dec 2006.

**Photographer:** Jeremy Rolfe