



## *Trisetum lasiorhachis*

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. North Island only, mainly in subalpine to alpine portions of the Central North Island and adjacent main axial ranges. Also collected on Mt Pirongia, and in the past from near Waiuku and Mt Wellington, Auckland. It is now extinct at these last two locations.

### **Habitat:**

Usually a montane to subalpine species (600-1500 m a.s.l.) but occasionally found at lower altitudes. May be found growing in scrub, open forest, tussock grassland, along river and stream sides, and on rock outcrops

### **Features\*:**

Stout, erect to somewhat lax, narrowly tufted, greyish green, glaucous to dull green grass 50-850 mm tall, sometimes rhizomatous, with pale straw-coloured leaf-sheaths. Leaf blades usually bearing scattered long, pilose hairs, with pilose hairs on culms and with the panicle-rachis and branches usually pubescent. Branching extravaginal. Leaf-sheath to 60 mm long, pubescent. Collar hairs sparse, pilose, long. Ligule 0.3-0.8 mm, truncate, erose, glabrous or ciliate. Leaf-blade 50-250 x 1.3-3.0 mm, flat, rarely inrolled and narrower, often with scattered long hairs, undersides prickle-toothed toward apex, upper surface ribbed with more or less scattered minute prickle-teeth or short hairs on ribs; margins minutely prickle-toothed, and often bearing scattered long pilose hairs. Culm 100-500 mm, internodes pilose above and below nodes, densely pilose, pubescent or glabrous towards panicle. Panicle 30-210 x 10-50 mm, lanceolate, usually open with visible rachis but spikelets clustered and individually inconspicuous; rachis, branches, and pedicels densely pilose to sparsely, minutely hairy. Spikelets 5-8 mm, pale green or purple-tinged. Glumes unequal, keels often strong, prickle-toothed in upper 1/2 or almost throughout; lower 2/3-4/5 length of upper, narrow-oblong, tapered to an often long-acuminate apex, upper < spikelet, elliptic, acute to shortly acuminate; margins almost entire with very few prickle-teeth near apex. Lemma 5.0-7.5 mm, bicuspid, minutely prickle-toothed or papillate; awn 5.0-9.5 mm, straight to later recurved, insertion point in upper 1/2 to 1/3 of lemma. Palea minutely prickle-toothed on keels and margins. Callus hairs to 0.8 mm. Rachilla hairs to 2 mm. Lodicules c.1.3 mm, glabrous. Anthers 1.8-2.2 mm. Ovary to 1 mm long; stigma-styles to 2.4 mm. Seed 2.5 x 0.8 mm.

### **Flowering:**

November - February

### **Fruiting:**

January - May

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Description modified from 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=1325](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1325)