



## *Carex astricta*

### **Common Name(s):**

Bastard Grass, Hook Sedge

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

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

New Zealand: North, South and Stewart Islands from about the Hauhangaroa and Raukumara Range south

### **Habitat:**

Montane forest, forest margins and damp sites within grassland. Descending to sea level in southern part of its range

### **Features\*:**

Weakly tufted, dark green to yellow-green plants. Culms 40.0-400.0 × 0.5-1.0 mm, glabrous; basal bracts dull dark brown or chestnut-brown. Leaves 6-11 per culm, < or = culms, 2-4 mm wide, rather stiff, often curved, dark green to yellow-green, rather flat but with midrib evident on abaxial surface, scabrid on margins and adaxial surface. Spikes 25-90 mm long, often bracteate, subclavate, 4-5 mm diameter in the female portion of spike, male portion more slender, usually conspicuous, c.2 mm diameter and 1/3-1/4 the length of the whole spike; female flowers 10-35, almost all closely crowded, internodes 1-5 mm long. Glumes > utricles in lower part of spike, = utricles above, deciduous, ovate or subulate, acute or acuminate, membranous, greenish brown or light brown, usually striated, midrib green with 3 distinct nerves, later becoming dark brown. Utricles 5.0-7.0 × 1.5-2.0 mm, trigonous, broadly ovoid, 1.0-1.5 mm long, beak 1-2 mm long.

### **Flowering:**

October - November

### **Fruiting:**

November - April

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970). Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange 17 August 2006.

### **References and further reading:**

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1333](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1333)