



## *Carex erebus*

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

Hookers Bastard Grass

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

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Indigenous. New Zealand: Antipodes, Auckland and Campbell Islands. Also present on Macquarie Island

### **Habitat:**

Mostly found in tussock grassland, usually at altitudes of 300- 600 m a.s.l. Also growing amongst seal colonies at sea level. rarely extending into forest on the Auckland Islands.

### **Features\*:**

Dense, stiff tufts arising from a slender stoloniferous rhizome c. 1mm diameter Culms 40-250 × c. 0.5 mm, glabrous; basal bracts dark brown. Leaves 5-9 per culm, much >> flowering culms but usually only slightly < fruiting culms, 1.5-2.0 mm wide, dark green, rigid, involute, scabrid on margins and upper surface towards tip. Spikes 10-35 × c.3 mm, greenish brown, female flowers c. 10-20, crowded towards top of spike with internodes 1-3 mm long, more distant in lower third of spike with internodes up to 4 mm long. Glumes ± = or slightly > utricles, deciduous, lanceolate, acute, membranous, light or dark brown, usually with a prominent green midrib and two very dark brown lateral veins, margin pale brown. Utricles 4-5 mm long, slightly < 1 mm diameter, trigonous or subtrigonous, oblong or lanceolate, light green, nerved, occasionally only faintly so on the two abaxial surfaces, slightly contracted at the base to a stipe c.1 mm long, beak 1.0-1.5 mm long; strongly spreading when ripe

### **Flowering:**

November - December

### **Fruiting:**

December - February

### **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=1343](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1343)