



Carex crispera

Common Name(s):

Bastard Grass, Hook Sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North (Mt Egmont and Ruahine Range), South (North-West Nelson, Mt Arthur, Nelson, Otago and Fiordland) and Stewart Islands.

Habitat:

Upper montane, subalpine to alpine. In grassland or scrub, very rarely in open forest

Features*:

Tufted, bright-green to yellow-green plants. Culms 100-300 × c.0.5 mm, subtrigonus or terete, glabrous; basal bracts dull brown. Leaves 4-7 per culm, < culms, c.1 mm wide, ± stiff, involute, or flatter and up to 1.5 mm wide, bright green, usually curled at the tips, faintly scabrid on margins and adaxial surface towards leaf-tip. Spikes 30-55 × 2-5 mm, occasionally bracteate, female flowers 6-20, rather close-set, internodes 1-3 mm long. Glumes much > utricles at base of spike, = utricles above, deciduous, ovate, acute or acuminate, membranous, light brown with a green to brown midrib. Utricles 4.0-5.0 × 1.0-1.5 mm, trigonus, ovate, widely spreading when ripe, green to light brown, shining, the lateral nerve always prominent, otherwise smooth or faintly nerved, contracted below to a conspicuous stipe slightly > 1.0 mm long, slightly tapered above to a beak c.1 mm long



Caption: *Carex crispera*
Photographer: Sandra Wotherspoon

Flowering:

October - December

Fruiting:

November - March

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=1344