



## *Carex cyanea*

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

Bastard Grass, Hook Grass

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

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (southern third only), South Island (mostly eastern, as far south as Dunedin, very scarce in the west)

### **Habitat:**

Mostly coastal, in open forest and scrub, rarely bordering wetlands and saltmarsh.

### **Features\*:**

Rather stout, wiry, densely tufted, glaucous to dark green plants. Culms 300–700 mm long, < 1 mm diameter, initially distinctly scabrid above, becoming faintly so when mature; lower basal sheaths dark brown, uppermost sheath bright pink above. Leaves 1-3 per culm, < culms, usually c. 1 mm wide and involute, rarely up to 2 mm wide and flat, scabrid on the margins and upper surface. Spikes 40-150 × 2–3 mm, female flowers c. 10-20(-26), distant, internodes up to 15 mm long at base of spike, decreasing to 4 mm long above. Glumes < utricles, persistent, ± obtuse, subcoriaceous, or membranous, midrib conspicuous, green, remainder hyaline, colourless or red-tinged. Utricles 5-7 × c.1 mm, plano-convex, oblong, nerved on the dorsal side, scarcely stipitate, very slightly narrowed to a scabrid beak slightly < 2 mm long

### **Flowering:**

October - November (-December)

### **Fruiting:**

November - July

### **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=1346](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1346)