



Carex healyi

Common Name(s):

Harsh-leaved Bastard Grass, Hook Sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand. North Island from Great Barrier Island and the Kaipara south (most common in the east). South Island (Nelson and thence east of the main divide to about Dunedin).

Habitat:

Coastal to subalpine. Usually in dense lowland to montane forest. However, also locally common in dune forest and scrub in the northern part of its range.

Features*:

Rather harsh-textured, rigidly erect, densely tufted, yellow-green, olive-green or dull bluish green plants. Culms 250-900 mm tall, usually < 1 mm diameter, erect, strongly scabrid towards the top; basal sheaths dark brown. Leaves 3-6 per culm, > or = culm, 2-3 mm wide, narrow-linear, moderately scabrid on margins and on upper surface along midvein, tips subacute in shorter leaves, more tapering and filiform in longer leaves. Spikes 30-100 long, bracteate, lowermost glume often broad and leaf-like, much > spike, or the midrib greatly extended forming a long filiform awn, female flowers c.10, lax, internodes to 8 mm long at base of spike, 2-4 mm long above. Glumes < or = utricles, persistent, obtuse or lowermost subacute, membranous, very light brown, the midrib of lower glumes often scabrid. Utricles 4.5-6.0 × c.1 mm, plano-convex or subtrigonal, grey-brown, scabrid on both surfaces towards the apex, narrowed above to a beak 1 mm long and scarcely narrowed below to a greenish stipe 1.0-1.5 mm long

Flowering:

October - November

Fruiting:

November - March (- June)

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

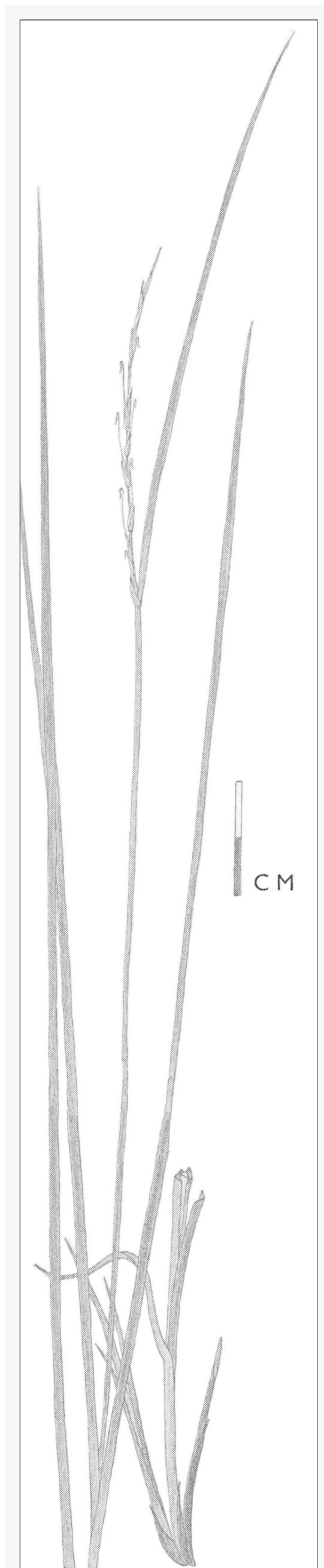
Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (31 September 2006). Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970).

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=1351



Caption: Reproduced with permission from Wild Plants of Mount Cook National Park (1978).
Photographer: Hugh D. Wilson