



Carex silvestris

Common Name(s):

Forest Bastard Grass, Hook Sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand, North Island (Pureora and the Kaimai Range south), South and Stewart Islands

Habitat:

Lowland to upper montane forest. Often rather local and probably warranting listing as Naturally Uncommon/Sparse.

Features*:

Bright green, densely caespitose plants. Culms 200.0-400.0 × c.0.5 mm, glabrous; basal bracts light cinnamon-brown or yellow-brown, not shining. Leaves 4-5 per culm, ± = or slightly > culms, 0.5-2.0 mm wide, bright green, tapering to a long filiform tip, scabrid on margins and on upper surface towards leaf-tip. Spikes 35-100 × 2-3 mm, often bracteate with the leaf-like bract much > spike, female flowers c.10-20, internodes 3-5 mm long towards base of spike, 1-2 mm long above. Glumes much < utricles, persistent, ovate, acute or subacute, membranous, very faintly nerved, midrib pale green. Utricles 3.5-5.0 mm long, slightly < 1 mm diameter, plano-convex, concavo-convex or subtrigonal, oblong or ovoid-lanceolate, light green, rarely greenish brown, membranous, few-nerved or smooth, stipe c.1 mm long, narrowed above to a distinct beak 1.0-1.5 mm long

Flowering:

October - November

Fruiting:

November - February

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

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=1352



Caption: Tararua Forest Park. Feb 2008.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Caption: Tararua Forest Park. Leaf bases. Feb 2008.

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