



## *Carex dallii*

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

Dalls Sedge

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

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. New Zealand; South Island (North West Nelson, Westland and Otago)

### **Habitat:**

Montane to subalpine in damp depressions, swamps and mires in forest and scrub.

### **Features\*:**

Shortly rhizomatous; slender, dull red sedge with  $\pm$  distant tufts. Rhizome c.1 mm diameter, closely covered by dark red striated bracts. Culms elongating when mature to c.500.0  $\times$  c.0.5 mm, glabrous, flattened or subterete; basal sheaths light brown or reddish, nerves  $\pm$  distinct. Leaves c.  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of culms, 1–2 mm wide, channelled, narrow-linear, margins scarcely scabrid at base with well-spaced teeth towards the tip. Spikes 3-4 (-5), the uppermost  $\pm$  approximate, sessile, the 1(-2) lowest often much more distant and on a long filiform peduncle; terminal spike male; remaining spikes female, 5-15  $\times$  2-5 mm, rarely with a few male flowers at the base; subtending bracts leaf-like,  $>$  inflorescence. Glumes  $\pm =$  or slightly  $<$  utricles, ovate, red-brown, midrib usually paler brown, but occasionally darker brown, margins scarious, tips usually emarginate with a short but rather broad scabrid awn. Utricles 2.0-3.0  $\times$  1.0-1.5 mm, subtrigonus, narrow-ovoid, or almost oblong, light brown below, dark red-brown above, surface smooth or faintly nerved, margins smooth, slightly narrowed towards a beak  $<$  0.5 mm long with a shallow bidentate scabrid orifice, somewhat contracted at the base to an extremely short stipe. Stigmas 3. Nut c. 2 mm long, trigonus, oblong-obovoid, light brown.

### **Flowering:**

October - December

### **Fruiting:**

December - April

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **\*Attribution:**

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (10 August 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.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

### **For more information, visit:**

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