



## *Carex dissita*

### Common Name(s):

Forest Sedge

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: North, South and Stewart Islands.

### Habitat:

Lowland to montane. Usually in riparian forest, where it may be abundant along stream sides.

### Features\*:

Shortly rhizomatous; green leafy tufts, drooping above, 0.15-1.00 m high. Culms 0.5-1.5(-1.7) mm diameter, trigonous, striated, edges smooth; basal sheaths light brown, grey-brown or often dark red-purple. Leaves > or < culms, 1.5-5.0 mm wide, double-folded, bright green or yellow-green, or red-green with red margins and midvein red abaxially, margins finely scabrid. Spikes 4-8; terminal spike male, rarely with a few female flowers at the top or with 1-2 very small male spikes at the base; remaining spikes female, usually with a few male flowers at the base, more rarely male at the top, 5-30 × 4-6 mm, uppermost spikes erect on very short peduncles, ± distant, lowest spike often quite remote and drooping from a slender peduncle. Glumes (excluding awn) slightly < utricles, ovate, emarginate to almost entire, pale reddish green or light brown, to dark red-brown with paler margins, membranous, midrib broad, pale brown, occasionally bright red-purple or straw-coloured, with 3 distinct, almost white, nerves produced to a usually short scabrid mucro. Utricles 2.0-3.0 × c. 1.5 mm, biconvex, turgid, ovoid, yellow-brown or cream at the base, red-purple to almost black above, abaxial face usually lighter coloured and more distinctly nerved than the other, margins occasionally very finely scabrid below the beak; beak c. 0.5 mm long, almost white, deeply bifid with divergent crura, orifice scabrid; stipe c. 0.3 mm. long. Stigmas 3. Nut c. 1.5 mm long, trigonous, ovoid, light brown.

### Flowering:

August - November

### Fruiting:

October - May

### 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.

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1405](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1405)



**Caption:** *Carex dissita*

**Photographer:** Wayne Bennett



**Caption:** Coromandel, February

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth