



Carex secta

Common Name(s):

Purei, Pukio, Niggerhead

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. Found throughout the North, South and Stewart Islands. Also on the main Chatham Island, though scarce.

Habitat:

Widespread in suitable wetlands from coastal to montane wetlands.

Features*:

Tussock forming sedge up to 1.5 x 0.8 m, mature specimens with trunk-like bases comprised of matted rhizomes, roots and old culm-bases. Culms 0.25-1(-1.5) m, drooping, trigonous, scabrid, basal sheaths brown to light-brown. Leaves 1.5-7 mm wide, light green to yellow-green (rarely dark green - then in heavy shade), equal to or longer than culms, drooping, channelled, margins and keel scabrid. Inflorescence a loosely branched, somewhat slender, drooping panicle 0.45-1 m long. Spikes pale brown, mostly clustered towards the ends of the slender branchlets. Utricles chestnut brown to dark brown, margins weakly winged, scabrid, light brown to brown, apex with a minute to distinct beak.

Flowering:

(September-) October-November (-
December)

Fruiting:

October -
March

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:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1418



Caption: *Carex secta*
Photographer: Wayne Bennett



Caption: *Carex secta* (Purei)
Photographer: Wayne Bennett