



## *Carex sectoides*

### Common Name(s):

Sedge

### Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### Distribution:

Endemic. Chatham and Antipodes Island groups.

### Habitat:

Widespread along stream, lake and pond margins and in seepages, flushes, and around shallow ephemeral pools. Usually in open, well lighted situations but also may be fringing streams running through successional forest.

### Features\*:

Robust, tussock forming sedge up to 2 x 1 m, arising from a stout trunk-like base (comprised of densely interwoven former roots) up to 1 m tall. Culms 0.15-1.8 m x 2-3 mm, triquetrous, margins razor sharp, scabrid, robust, curved over toward apices; basal sheaths grey-brown. Leaves = to or < culms, 5-8 mm wide, deeply channelled, with strongly scabrid, razor-sharp margins.

Inflorescence a broad, heavy, greyish-brown to brown panicle 70-80 mm long, with numerous stiff, crowded branchlets up to 40 mm long, the lowermost usually distant. Spikes numerous, more or less sessile, red-brown, 4-5-flowered, male flowers at apex. Glumes > utricles, ovate-lanceolate, acute or lower glumes of spike awned, brownish-hyaline, faintly nerved, with a paler brown thickened midrib. Utricles 2.5-3.8 x 1-1.8 mm, unequally biconvex, elliptic-ovoid, smooth on curved face, very faintly nerved on the flatter face, light yellow-brown, later dark brown, more or less shining; beak 1 mm long, strongly bifid, with green, winged, strongly scabrid on margins; stipe 0.5 mm long. Stigmas 2. Nut slightly < 2 mm long, biconvex, narrow-obovoid, pale grey, greyish-white to white.

### Flowering:

September - December

### Fruiting:

December - June

### 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=1419](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1419)



**Caption:** Chatham Islands

**Photographer:** Peter de Lange



**Caption:** *Carex sectoides* at Gillespies stream

**Photographer:** Peter de Lange