



Carex sinclairii

Common Name(s):

Sinclair's sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand. North and South Islands from the Waikato River delta and Hauraki Plains south.

Habitat:

Coastal to alpine. In freshwater wetlands, under willow in gully systems, along river and stream banks, lake margins, and in damp seepages, pond and tarn margins and clearings within forest. Preferring fertile to mid-fertile wetlands.

Features*:

Rhizomatous; tufts ± distant, rather stiff, bright green to bright yellow-green (often with a slight glaucous sheen). Rhizome 2–4 mm diameter, occasionally long-creeping. Culms 40–500 × 0.5–1.5 mm, trigonous, margins faintly scabrid, especially towards inflorescence; basal sheaths grey-brown or reddish brown. Leaves numerous = or > culms, 2–4 mm wide, double-folded, ± erect, rather rigid, margins closely scabrid. Spikes 4–7, all, or at least the lowest, distinctly pedunculate; terminal 1(–2) spikes male, dark brown or occasionally very light brown, the rest female, 15–35 × 3–5 mm, usually dark brown, occasionally branched at base. Glumes ± = utricles, ovate-lanceolate, subacute, truncate, almost emarginate, coriaceous, dark red-brown, almost black, midrib narrow, light yellow-green, extending to the tip or produced beyond to a scarcely scabrid awn usually < 1 mm, but up to 2.5 mm long. Utricle 2.5–3.5 × c.1.5 mm, plano-convex, ovoid to ovoid-ellipsoid, rather compressed, light yellow-brown to dark brown, with usually 2–5 distinct nerves on each face, occasionally more in larger plants, margins glabrous; tapering gradually above to a beak slightly < 0.5 mm long, orifice entire or minutely bidentate; stipe < 0.5 mm long. Stigmas 2. Nut 1.5–2.0 mm. long, plano-convex, oblong, light brown

Flowering:

October - November

Fruiting:

November - May

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (110 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=1594



Caption: Inflorescence, Whanganui.

Photographer: Colin Ogle



Caption: Utricles, Whanganui.

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