



## *Carex diandra*

### Common Name(s):

sedge

### Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

### Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands. Uncommon in the North Island and mainly found south of the Central Volcanic Plateau. More widespread in the South Island. Also present throughout the North Hemisphere and most of the Southern Hemisphere.

### Habitat:

Coastal to subalpine in open, moderately fertile to mid oligotrophic wetlands developed on river flats, within forest or in short or tall-tussock grasslands.

### Features\*:

Rhizomatous; loosely tufted, non tussock-forming, pale or bright green (rarely glaucous green), sedge. Shoots arising singly from the rhizome. Rhizome c.2 mm diameter, loosely covered by dark brown sheaths, roots, fibrous, chestnut-brown; shoots approximate, 2-3 mm diameter at base including basal sheaths. Culms 150-550 × c.1 mm, wiry, trigonous, smooth below, angles scabrid above; basal sheaths dark grey-brown. Leaves < culms, 1.5-3.0 mm wide, channelled, scabrid on the edges, becoming triquetrous towards the tip. Inflorescence 15-50 mm long, a compound spike, with a few spikes distant below and ± spikes clustered above, greenish brown, rarely subtended by a leaf-like bract ± = inflorescence. Spikes c.5 mm long, androgynous, male flowers terminal. Glumes = or slightly < utricles, ovate, brown with wide membranous margins, midrib excurrent, finely scabrid in lower glumes. Utricles 3.0-3.5 × 1.5-2.0 mm, plano-convex, occasionally unequally biconvex, broadly ovoid, with short distinct nerves radiating from the base on the convex face, but smooth on the flat face, shining, dark brown; beak c.1 mm long, subpyramidal, light brown, margins scabrid, orifice bifid; stipe minute, c.0.2 mm long, very narrow. Stigmas 2. Nut 1.5 mm long, biconvex or subtrigonous, obovoid, very much narrowed towards the base, dull brown.

### Flowering:

October - December

### Fruiting:

December - 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=2030](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2030)



**Caption:** In cultivation ex Sedgemere Tarns. Oct 2007.

**Photographer:** Jeremy Rolfe



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