



Carex gaudichaudiana

Common Name(s):

Gaudichaud's sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands from about the northern Waikato south. Also in Australia and New Guinea.

Habitat:

Lowland to alpine in wetlands, bogs and mires, along river flats, in seepages, around the margins of lakes, ponds and tarns.

Features*:

Rhizome ascending; tufts flaccid. Rhizomes 1.5-2.0 mm diameter, often long-creeping. Culms variable in size, 20-320 × 0.3-1.0 mm, trigonous, almost glabrous, but often slightly scabrid just below the inflorescence; basal sheaths light brown or grey-brown. Leaves numerous, < or us. > culms, 0.5-2.5 mm wide, double-folded, grass-like, keel, margins and nerves on adaxial surface slightly scabrid towards tip. Inflorescence of 3-5 spikes, ± approximate, usually sessile; uppermost spike male, occasionally compound with a smaller male spike near its base; lower spikes female, often male at the top, 5-20 × 2-5 mm, usually < male spikes. Glumes < utricles, ovate, subacute, dark brown to almost black, coriaceous, midrib narrow to broad, green, scarcely reaching tip of glume. Utricles 2.5-4.0 × 1.5-2.0 mm, narrow-ovoid to orbicular-ovoid, gradually tapering above, much compressed, green with minute red-brown spots when mature, conspicuously nerved, margins smooth; beak almost wanting, orifice entire or minutely bidentate; stipe < 0.5 mm. long. Stigmas 2. Nut 1.5-2 mm. long, biconvex, orbicular-ovoid, dull grey

Flowering:

October - December

Fruiting:

December - April

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

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=2032



Caption: Lammermoor Range
1000m

Photographer: Rowan Hindmarsh-Walls



Caption: Stevensons Island, Lake
Wanaka

Photographer: John Barkla