



Schoenus maschalinus

Common Name(s):

dwarf bog rush

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Indigenous. North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands. Also in Australia, New Guinea as far north as the Philippines.

Habitat:

Coastal to alpine (up to 1400 m a.s.l.). In damp, poorly drained soils in a wide range of habitats from dense forest to river margins, lake sides to alpine seepages and turfs.

Features*:

Small, flaccid, tufted or widely spreading green and leafy sedge. Culms 0.3-1.0 m long, 0.5 mm diameter, bright green, usually trailing and rooting at nodes, branched toward apices. Leaves numerous, 10.0-35.0 x 0.5-1.0 mm, almost flat, alternate, spreading, obtuse, margins usually finely toothed towards leaf apex; sheath enclosing 1/3 of internode, membranous, often red-purple. Spikelets 1-3 in the axils of leaves, 2-3 mm long, 1-2-flowered, light brown or reddish purple, sessile or on short, scabrid stalks. Glumes 5, ovate-lanceolate, more or less obtuse, 2 lowest smaller, empty, membranous, mucronate 1-2 upper glumes fertile, margins hyaline, median nerve pale green. Hypogynous bristles mostly 6, white or yellow-brown, thread-like, slightly greater than or occasionally less than nut, persistent. Stamens 3. Style branches 3. Nut 1 x c.1 mm, white, elliptic-ovoid, angles green and thickened, apex acute, occasionally with a small trigonous, persistent, style-base.

Flowering:

Throughout the year

Fruiting:

Throughout the year

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.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2040



Caption: Shakespeare Bluff, Whitianga, April

Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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