



Stenostachys enysii

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island only Nelson, then east of the main divide from Marlborough to Canterbury

Habitat:

Montane, subalpine to alpine (up to 1800 m a.s.l.), usually in shaded sites such as in and around boulders under rock overhangs, or in low scrub. Also in flushes within tussock grassland

Features*:

Tufted, bronze-coloured, flat-leaved grass. Culm slender, drooping, inflorescence often hidden in foliage. Leaf sheath 60-80 mm, covered in long hairs, these retrorse, erect or pubescent. Ligule 0.5-0.75 mm. Leaf-blade 200 x 2-4 mm, flat, soft, upper surface densely retrorse hairy or glabrous, undersides antrosely prickle-toothed, margin prickle-toothed. Culm 250-800 mm. Inflorescence 50-130 mm, with 10-18 compact spikelets. Spikelets 10-16 mm, shining. Glumes about equal, narrow 6-9 mm, 1-3-nerved, scabrid, becoming awn-like, margin prickle-toothed. Lemma 7-10 mm, > palea, glaucous, apex bifid, awn 1-3.5 mm, indented at base. Palea 6-9 mm, apex bifid. Rachilla 1-2 mm flared near apex. Callus 0.25 mm blunt, surrounded by minute hairs. Description adapted from Edgar & Connor (2000).

Flowering:

No information available

Fruiting:

No information available

Threats:

Not Threatened. However old herbarium specimens suggest that it was once more widespread at lower altitudes, and once grew in more open sites, places which are now dominated by exotic grasses and weeds.

***Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange May 2004.
Adapted from Edgar & Connor (2000).

References and further reading:

Barkworth, M.E.; Jacobs, S.W.L. 2011: The Triticeae (Gramineae) in Australasia. *Telopea* 13: 37-56.

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: *Flora of New Zealand*. Vol. V. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press.

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=2310



Caption: *Australopyrum enysii*
Photographer: Alan Stewart