



Centrolepis strigosa

Common Name(s):

Centrolepis

Current Threat Status (2012):

Threatened - Nationally Critical

Distribution:

Indigenous. New Zealand: North and South Islands. In the North Island known locally from the Kai Iwi Lakes, Glinks Gully and Bayly's Beach (west of Dargaville) to Lake Ototoa (see de Lange 2011). In the South Island known only from near Bluff Hill and Invercargill. Also in Australia

Habitat:

Coastal to lowland. Growing in open clay, sand or silty places in damp places near lake or pond margins, or on open sand pans within gumland scrub (see de Lange 2011).

Features*:

Delicate tufted annual 15-70 mm tall. Roots fine, fibrous (whole plant easily detached from soil). Leaves 10-30 x 0.2 mm, filiform, grey-green to green, hispid the surfaces being covered in long white, rigid, multicellular hairs; apices acicular, otherwise leaves broadening toward a membranous sheath. Flowering stems 20-65 x 0.4 mm, much longer than leaves, hispid with very fine somewhat tangled, white hairs. Glume-like bracts 2-3, these 3 mm long, green or pinkish-green with a narrow membranous margin, ovate and spreading, covered with long, rigid, multicellular hairs; awns glabrous 1 mm long with an acicular apex. Pseudanthia 4-8 in each bract, these almost equal to bracts in length, each with 3 hyaline, unequal, fringed scales, one very much shorter the other two of similar length, sheathing the male and female flowers, Male flowers set with 1 per partial inflorescence, females 4-8 per partial inflorescence, connate and superposed in 2 rows, or occasionally appearing spirally arranged. Styles not connate. Seed 0.5 mm long, brown with a dark tip at each end, obovate-oblong, blunt at the apex, surface finely reticulated.

Flowering:

December - February

Fruiting:

December - March (- April)

Threats:

A naturally uncommon, biologically sparse, seasonal annual. Although it has not been reliably reported from Bluff and Invercargill for many years it is probably still present there. It is seasonally abundant at the Kai Iwi Lakes (de Lange 2011).

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange 14 August 2006. Description based on Moore & Edgar (1970).

References and further reading:

de Lange, P.J. 2011: *Centrolepis strigosa* - a rarely seen annual. *Trilepidea* 87: 7-9.

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II, Wellington, Government Printer.

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* 11: 285-309

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=240



Caption: Lake Waikare, Kaiwi Lakes. Jan 2011.

Photographer: Peter de Lange



Caption: Collected from Lake Waikare, Kaiwi Lakes. Jan 2011.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe