



Agrostis stolonifera

Common Name(s):

creeping bent

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Distribution:

Common throughout.

Habitat:

Wide variety of wetland and aquatic habitats, also in drier habitats including roadsides, wasteland, grassland and open scrub. Lowland to subalpine.

Features*:

Sprawling stoloniferous, rooting at the nodes, mat or turf forming grass, 30-60 (100) cm tall. Can be submerged in clear fast-flowing streams/rivers. Leaf blade 1-20 cm long and 1-8 mm wide with an acute tip. Ligule 2-6 mm long, membranous. The flower heads are usually upright or bending upwards in a many-flowered open or contracted panicle 3-28 × 0.5-2.5-(6) cm.

Flowering:

Spring and summer

Fruiting:

Summer to autumn

*Attribution:

Prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA)

References and further reading:

Edgar E. and H. Connor. 2000. Flora of New Zealand. Volume 5. Manaaki Whenua Press: Lincoln, New Zealand.

Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication. <http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-fact-sheets/freshwater-pest-species>

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2467



Caption: Invading lower shoreline at Waituna Lagoon

Photographer: Jesse Bythell



Caption: *Agrostis stolonifera*

Photographer: Trevor James (AgResearch)