



## *Carex demissa*

### **Common Name(s):**

yellow sedge

### **Current Threat Status (2009):**

Exotic

### **Distribution:**

Scattered throughout, common in high rainfall areas such as Westland and Southland.

### **Habitat:**

Water body margins, swamps, damp waste places and low-lying areas.

### **Features\*:**

Tufts  $\pm$  dense. Stems variable, to 30 cm long and much  $>$  leaves, but often  $<$  leaves, erect or  $\pm$  flaccid, smooth, subterete. Leaves 1.5-3 mm wide, channelled, dull yellow-green; ligule notched; sheaths almost white, becoming grey. Inflorescence of one terminal pedunculate male spike and 1-4  $\pm$  sessile, erect female spikes usually approximate at top of stem but often with a single female spike towards base of stem; subtending bracts  $>$  inflorescence, flaccid. Male spike to 2 cm  $\times$  2 mm; glumes light brown,  $\pm$  4 mm long, obtuse, light brown. Female spikes  $\pm$  1 cm  $\times$  5 mm; glumes  $<$  utricles, ovate, subacute, membranous, brown-tinged. Utricles  $\pm$  3  $\times$  1 mm, glabrous, faintly nerved, inflated, yellow-green, obovoid, abruptly narrowed to a bifid beak to 1 mm long. Stigmas 3. Nut obovoid, trigonous.

### **Flowering:**

Spring

### **Fruiting:**

Summer

### **\*Attribution:**

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA). Features description from Healy and Edgar (1980).

### **References and further reading:**

Champion et al (2012). Freshwater Pests of New Zealand. NIWA publication.

<http://www.niwa.co.nz/freshwater-and-estuaries/management-tools/identification-guides-and-factsheets/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=3634](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3634)



**Caption:** *Carex demissa*

**Photographer:** Trevor James (AgResearch)



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