



## *Carex lurida*

### Common Name(s):

sallow sedge

### Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

### Distribution:

Scattered and locally common in Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Wellington, Tasman and Westland.

### Habitat:

Lowland swamps, roadside drains.

### Features\*:

Dense clumps up to 90 cm tall. Stems stout, erect, 3-angled, smooth or slightly scabrid on angles below inflorescence. Leaves 5-8 mm wide,  $\pm$  = stems, flat, many small internal septa noticeable when dry; sheaths red to almost black. Inflorescence of large approximate spikes each with long leaf-like bract. Male spike 1, 5-6 cm  $\times$  2 mm, peduncle short; glumes narrow with long scabrid awns. Female spikes usually 3, upper sessile, rest shortly pedunculate, 2-4  $\times$   $\pm$  1.5 cm, glumes much < utricles except at base of spike, narrow, hyaline, with an extremely long awn. Utricles 6-9  $\times$  2-4 mm, strongly inflated, distinctly nerved, shining, smooth, greenish-brown, beak very narrow, bifid, c.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of utricles. Stigmas 3. Nut trigonous, obovate, style strongly curved above base.

### Flowering:

Late spring to early summer

### Fruiting:

Summer to autumn

### \*Attribution:

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

### References and further reading:

Healy, A.J.; Edgar, E. (1980). Flora of New Zealand, Volume III. Adventive Cyperaceous, Petalous and Spathaceous Monocotyledons. Government Printer, Wellington. 220pp.

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

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>

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=3635](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3635)



**Caption:** *Carex lurida*, Howarth wetland, Te Aroha

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth



**Caption:** Howarth wetland, Te Aroha

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth