



## *Cyperus polystachyos*

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

bunchy sedge

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

Exotic

### **Distribution:**

Restricted to Northland and Auckland where it is locally common.

### **Habitat:**

Wet pasture, margins of water bodies and drains.

### **Features\*:**

Densely tufted annual to perennial. Stems to 50 cm tall, 3-angled, leafy at base. Leaves < stems, 2-3 mm wide, smooth; sheaths purple-brown, sometimes with a few transverse septa. Involucral bracts 3-6, leaf-like, > inflorescence. Inflorescence capitate or with rays to 4 cm long. Spikelets ± stiffly erect in rather dense clusters, narrow-linear, acute, ± 15 × 1.5 mm. Glumes ± 2 mm long, densely imbricate, membranous, subobtusate, chestnut or straw-coloured with green keel. Stamens 2. style-branches 2. Nut ± 1/2 length of glume, oblong, compressed-biconvex, brown.

### **Flowering:**

Summer to autumn

### **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=3762](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3762)



**Caption:** Lake Waiporohita, Karikari Peninsula. Feb 2011.

**Photographer:** Jeremy Rolfe



**Caption:** Northland

**Photographer:** Kerry Bodmin