



Cyperus sanguinolentus

Common Name(s):

Louisiana flatsedge

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Distribution:

Restricted to Northland and Auckland.

Habitat:

Wet pasture, margins of water bodies and drains.

Features*:

Tufted annual. Stems to 40 cm high, very slender in small plants but more rigid in larger ones, 3-angled, very leafy at base. Leaves < stems, to 2.5 mm wide, margins smooth except near tip. Involucral bracts 2-3, very widely spreading, unequal, at least the lowest >, to very much > inflorescence. Inflorescence a single head or small umbel with few very short rays. Spikelets in ovoid dark clusters, oblong or oblong-lanceolate, 4-8 × 2 mm, much compressed. Glumes not closely imbricate, ± 2 mm long, ovate, obtuse, with broad green keel and dark red-purple patch at tip and purple band inside the green margin. Stamens 3 or 2. Style-branches 2. Nut ± ½ length of glume, orbicular-obovoid, biconvex, black.

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=3783



Caption: *Cyperus sanguinolentus*
Photographer: Aleki Taumoepeau (NIWA)



Caption: *Cyperus sanguinolentus*
Photographer: Paul Champion