



Carex traversii

Common Name(s):

Traver's Sedge

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. South Island, eastern Nelson, Red Hills and Mt Dun ultramafic are only.

Habitat:

An ultramafic endemic confined to open sites within seepages, rubbly ground or damp scree. Sometimes it can be found on boulders or in open, dry ground.

Features*:

Short, densely tufted dark red to purple-red sedge of damp ground and seepages within ultramafic zones. Culms 100-200 x 1 mm, terete, basal sheaths light brown. Leaves usually > culms, rarely = or < culms, 0.5-1 mm wide, flaccid, lamina plano-convex, margins involute, slightly scabrid towards the filiform usually curled apex. Inflorescence of 3-6 more or less approximate spikes; uppermost male, shortly pedunculate; remaining spikes female, sometimes with 1-2 male flowers near base, 5-10 x 5 mm, sessile with occasional lowermost spike rather distantly pedunculate; subtending bracts leafy, > inflorescence. Glumes lightly < utricles, membranous, light red-brown with a stouter, paler midrib, acuminate, or with a short scabrid awn. Utricles 2.5-3 x 1 mm, subtrigonus to plano-convex, more or less fusiform, dark red-brown, except for the pale beak and the stipe, lateral nerves prominent, remaining nerves faint; beak attenuated, rather narrow, 0.5 mm long, crura acutely bifid, scabrid; stipe hardly contracted, very short. Stigmas 3. Nut 2 mm long, light brown, trigonus.

Flowering:

September - January

Fruiting:

October - June

Threats:

A naturally uncommon, range restricted endemic, abundant within suitable habitat within the ultramafics of the Red Hills and Mt Dun

***Attribution:**

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (10 August 2006). Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

References and further reading:

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=404