



## *Cyperus brevifolius*

### Common Name(s):

*Cyperus brevifolius* (Rottb.) Hassk.

### Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

### Distribution:

Scattered in northern North Island south to Taranaki, also in Westland.

### Habitat:

Wet pasture and heavily trampled/mown areas such as pathways, wet lawns.

### Features\*:

The plant has long rhizomes with reddish-purple scales. The flower stems are 1 to 30 cm high, slender, with one to four basal leaves. The leaves are shorter than the flower stems, flat and 1 to 2.5 mm wide. There are many tightly clustered spikelets, each 3 mm long and with one fertile and one sterile glume. The glumes are membranous with the green keel forming a sharp tip. The lower glume has 3 nerves on each side, and the upper has two such nerves. There is a single stamen with two style branches.

### Flowering:

Summer to autumn

### Fruiting:

Summer to autumn

### \*Attribution:

Prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).  
Description from Healy & 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-fact-sheets/freshwater-pest-species>

### For more information, visit:

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=4572](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4572)



**Caption:** Flowers of *Kyllinga brevifolia*

**Photographer:** Trevor James (AgResearch)



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