Anthosachne sacandros

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. Marlborough only.

Habitat:

Primarily coastal but extending inland in some locations. On limestone cliffs and river terraces, from sea level to $900\ m$

Features*:

Tufted or open branched. Leaf-sheath 30-120 mm, underside striate, glabrous, upper surface clad with minute prickles. Ligule 0.2-0.3 mm, fused to leaf-sheath margins. Leaf-blade 100-800 x 0.5-0.7 mm diam., filiform, underside glaucous, ribbed, upper surface with dense weft of 1 mm long hairs at base. Culm 150-400 mm, erect. Inflorescence 50-200 mm, of up to 8 spikelets. Spikelets 40-60 mm, of 6-8 florets. Glumes unequal, extended as 3 mm long prickle-toothed awn; lower 4.5-6.5 mm, 3-5-nerved, upper 7-11 mm, 5-7-nerved. Lemma with central, prominent nerve continued as recurved awn 25-60 mm long. Palea 10-11.5 mm, apex pointed, bifid, Rachilla 2-3 mm, hairy. Callus 1-1.5 mm, hairy, hairs greater than or equal in length callus. Anthers 3.8-5.5 mm.

Flowering: Fruiting:

October - February December - May

Threats:

A rather narrow range endemic which nevertheless can at times be locally abundant.

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange June 2005. Description adapted from Edgar & Connor (2000).

References and further reading:

Barkworth, M.E.; Jacobs, S.W.L. 2011: The Triticeae (Gramineae) in Australasia. Telopea 13: 37-56.

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Lincoln, Manaaki Whenua Press

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 11: 285-309

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=479