



Poa aucklandica subsp. aucklandica

Common Name(s):

Auckland Island Poa

Current Threat Status (2012):

Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: Auckland Islands.

Habitat:

Upland herbfield and rock crevices

Features*:

Tufted, dull green, slenderly laxly tufted rhizomatous perennial with narrow, ± erect leaves, ± reaching top of culms; branching extravaginal at plant base, intravaginal above; leaf-blades persistent. Leaf-sheath glabrous, very light green or pale brown, membranous, shredding into fibres. Ligule 1.0-1.3 mm long, apically glabrous, ± obtuse and slightly erose, abaxially slightly scabrid. Leaf-blade 40.0-160.0 × 0.5-c.1.5 mm, flaccid, soft, flat to folded, underside smooth, upper surface minutely ciliate-scabrid on ribs; margins and midrib smooth, tip curved. Culm slender, 45-300 mm long, internodes usually slightly scabrid below panicle. Panicle 30-80 mm long, lax, with few large spikelets borne singly at tips of filiform, finely scabrid branches. Spikelets 4.5-8.0 mm long, 3-5-flowered, brownish green or greenish purple. Glumes subequal, oblong-elliptic, acute, smooth, but occasionally scabrid on midnerve near tip; lower 3.5-5.0 mm, 3-nerved, upper 4.0-5.5 mm, 3-(5)-nerved. Lemma 4.0-5.5 mm, oblong-elliptic, acute; 5-7-nerved, nerves minutely scabrid with a few short hairs near base of midnerve and outer lateral nerves, internerves glabrous, often scabrid towards tip, midnerve occasionally very shortly excurrent. Palea 3.0-4.5 mm long, minutely closely scabrid on keels, smooth elsewhere. Callus with very small tuft of long crinkled hairs. Rachilla c. 1 mm, sparsely scabrid; prolongation to twice as long. Lodicules 0.5-0.7 mm. Anthers 0.4-0.7 mm long. Seeds 1.5 × 0.7 mm.

Flowering:

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

Fruiting:

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

Threats:

Not Threatened. Listed because it is a narrow range island endemic abundant within its known habitats

***Attribution:**

Description modified from Edgar and Connor (2000).

References and further reading:

Edgar, E.; Connor, H.E. 2000: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Christchurch, Manaaki Whenua Press. 650 pp.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=633