



## *Poa aucklandica subsp. rakiura*

### **Common Name(s):**

Mt Anglem Poa

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

Nationally Critical

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. New Zealand: Stewart Island (Mt Anglem)

### **Habitat:**

Near summit associated with *Chionochloa crassiuscula* (Kirk) Zotov subsp. *crassiuscula* grassland on rocks

### **Features\*:**

Dull green, slender, laxly tufted, slenderly rhizomatous perennial with narrow, ± erect leaves, ± reaching top of culms; branching extravaginal at plant base, intravaginal above; leaf-blades persistent. Leaf-sheath glabrous or sometimes shortly pubescent-scabrid near margins, very light green or pale brown, membranous, shredding into fibres. Ligule 0.5-2.0 mm, apically glabrous, ± obtuse and slightly erose, abaxially slightly scabrid. Leaf-blade 40.0-200.0 × 0.5-1.5 mm, flaccid, soft, flat to folded, underside smooth, upper surface minutely ciliate-scabrid on ribs; margins and midrib entirely smooth or with finely scabrid midrib and margins, tip curved. Culm 150-400 mm tall, slender, internodes usually slightly scabrid below panicle. Panicle 40-75 mm, lax, with few large spikelets borne singly at tips of filiform, finely scabrid branches. Spikelets 5.5-7.5 mm, 3-5-flowered, brownish green or greenish purple. Glumes ± unequal, elliptic, acute; smooth, but occasionally scabrid on midnerve near tip; lower 3.0-4.5 mm, 3-nerved, upper 4-5 mm, 3-(5)-nerved. Lemma 3.5-4.5 mm, oblong-elliptic, obtuse, 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. Palea 3-4 mm, 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 0.5-0.7 mm. Seeds 1.5 × 0.7 mm.

### **Flowering:**

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

### **Fruiting:**

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

### **Threats:**

A very localised, naturally uncommon, range restricted endemic known only from a small area near the summit of Mt Anglem. At present there is no evidence of decline but the population needs monitoring to ascertain trends. No obvious threats are evident at its sole known site which is within a Nature Reserve.

### **\*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.

Reed, A. W. (2002). The Reed Dictionary of New Zealand Place Names. Reed PUBLISHING. Auckland.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=635](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=635)