



Poa xenica

Common Name(s):

None Known

Current Threat Status (2012):

Data Deficient

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand North-West Nelson (South Branch Riwaka River and Pikiruna Range (Gorge Creek)).

Habitat:

Montane on marble cliffs in damp shaded sites and under associated sparse to moderately dense scrub on rubble fields

Features*:

Dioecious, glaucous to reddish-green, weakly tufted or pendulous, rather coarse, long-leaved plants, branching extravaginal, internodes elongate, rooting at nodes; leaf-blades persistent. Leaf-sheath 100 mm, keeled, ribbed, open to base, becoming dull brown and fragile, finely retrorsely hairy, margin membranous, darker brown. Ligule 1 mm, ciliate, abaxially finely hairy. Collar conspicuous, margin short hairy. Leaf-blade to 800 × 3-4 mm, coriaceous, folded below and at apex, ± flat elsewhere, abaxially glabrous with some long hairs near collar, adaxially clothed with small antrorse hairs, denser near ligule; margins abaxially sparsely prickle-toothed becoming smooth with apex prickle-toothed and sharp-pointed. Culm to 850, many noded, erect or with some geniculate nodes, nodes swollen, coloured, glabrous; internodes glabrous. Panicle to 250 mm, open, violet-suffused, subtended by bract to 2.5 mm; several to many solitary rarely binate branches at internodes, naked below with solitary spikelets, branches > internodes; rachis glabrous, branches and pedicels glabrous to sparsely shortly prickle-toothed. Spikelets 10-12 × 2 mm, gaping at anthesis, 1-6 widely separated florets. Glumes unequal, centrally green, violet elsewhere, nerves elevated; lower 2.5-3.5 mm, 1-3-nerved, upper 3.5-5.0 mm, 5-nerved, adaxially shortly hairy at apex, margins ciliate. Lemma 4.5-6.0 mm, 5-nerved, centrally green, violet elsewhere, abundantly finely pubescent throughout, keel prickle-toothed above, margins ciliate, membranous above, apex recurved, shortly lobed and mucronate, becoming erose. Palea 4.5-5.2 mm, less than or equal to lemma, apex bifid, keels minutely stiffly hairy. Callus 0.25 mm, short, blunt, glabrous or with a few prickle-teeth. Rachilla 1.5 mm, glabrous or with a few prickle-teeth at base; prolonged. Lodicules 0.5-1.0 mm, acutely lobed, tip ciliate. Anthers of male flowers: 2.75-3.75 mm, yellow or violet-suffused; of female flowers: 2.0-2.2 mm, white, pollenless. Gynoecium of male flowers: 0.8-1.0 mm; of female flowers: ovary 0.8-1.2 mm, glabrous; stigma-styles 2.0-3.5 mm. Seeds not seen.

Flowering:

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

Fruiting:

Unknown - insufficiently studied and collected

Threats:

Not Threatened. However known from only three very small populations in what appear to be secure 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=642