

Carex cheesemaniana

COMMON NAME

hook sedge, bastard grass

SYNONYMS

Uncinia compacta R.Br. var. *nervosa* (Boott) C.B.Clarke; *Uncinia cheesemanniana* Boeckl; *Uncinia nervosa* Boott

FAMILY

Cyperaceae

AUTHORITY

Carex cheesemaniana (Boeckeler) K.A.Ford

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Sedges

NVS CODE

UNCNER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 88

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: South Island. Also Tasmania

HABITAT

A local to locally common species of wet ground and bogs in montane forest or in subalpine to alpine snow-tussock (*Chionochloa*) grassland.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).



Mount Roberts (from a specimen collected by Graeme Jane). Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 23/10/2007, Licence: CC BY.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Bright to dark green, lax or densely caespitose plants. **Culms** 100–300 mm long, usually slightly < but occasionally > 0.5 mm diameter, glabrous; basal bracts dull grey-brown. **Leaves** 4–6 per culm, slightly < flowering culms, much < mature culms, c. 0.5 mm wide, plano-convex or concavo-convex, rigid, linear, scarcely narrowed to the obtuse tip, margins scabrid. **Spikes** 15–30 × 2–6 mm, oblong, female flowers 2–12, ± close-set, internodes 1.5–4.0 mm long. **Glumes** < or > utricles, deciduous, lanceolate, subacute, sides membranous, midrib green. **Utricles** 4–6 × c. 1 mm, trigonous, elliptic-lanceolate, greenish brown to dark brown, lateral nerves prominent, shining, very slightly contracted to a broad stipe c. 1 mm long, beak 1.0–1.5 mm long.

FLOWERING

November–January

FRUITING

December–March

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and the division of whole plants. Prefers cool, damp ground but once established will tolerate drought. Excellent in semi-shade.

ETYMOLOGY

carex: Latin name for a species of sedge, now applied to the whole group.

Taxonomic Notes

The epithet '*cheesemanniana*' (Global *Carex* Group 2015) based on *Uncinia cheesemanniana* Boeckeler is an orthographic error here corrected to '*cheesemania*' (see Art. 60, International Code of Nomenclature, Melbourne Code, 2011) - <http://www.iapt-taxon.org/nomen/main.php?page=art60>

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970). Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange 17 August 2006.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Global *Carex* Group. 2015. Making *Carex* monophyletic (Cyperaceae, tribe Cariceae): a new broader circumscription. *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* 179: 1–42. <https://doi.org/10.1111/boj.12298>.
Moore LB, Edgar E. 1970. Flora of New Zealand, Volume II. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Monocotyledones except Gramineae. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 354 p.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carex-cheesemania/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carex-cheesemania/>