

# Carex goyenii

## COMMON NAME

Goyen's sedge

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Cyperaceae

## AUTHORITY

Carex goyenii Petrie

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Sedges

## NVS CODE

CARGOY

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened


## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: South Island throughout but scarce in Westland and absent from Southland.

## HABITAT

Montane to alpine. In dense beech forest, on alluvial terraces in forest and scrub or in damp places in tussock grassland.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stiffly erect to spreading, tufted yellow-green sedge, 0.25–1.00 m tall. **Culms** 100–450 × 1–2 mm, trigonous, slightly scabrid; basal sheaths dark brown. **Leaves** much > culms, 3.5–6.0 mm wide, double-folded, coriaceous, margins scabrid. **Spikes** 4–8, the uppermost approximate, the lower 2–3 often more distant; 1–(2) terminal spikes occasionally male, but more often partly or almost wholly female; remaining female spikes 15–40 × 4–7 mm, cylindrical, sessile or shortly pedunculate. **Glumes** c.  length of utricles, ovate, often emarginate, brown, membranous, with a pale brown midrib produced to a short scabrid awn. **Utricles** 3.0–4.0 × c. 1.5 mm, plano-convex to unequally biconvex, ellipsoid or obovoid, faintly nerved to distinctly ridged, pale greenish brown spotted with fine red-brown striae, slightly narrowed to a < 1 mm long with scabrid margins and orifice. **Stigmas** 2. **Nuts** slightly < 2 mm long, plano-convex, oblong or obovoid, dark brown.



### SIMILAR TAXA

The usually stiffly erect to stiffly spreading yellow-green leafy tufts, double-folded leaves, equidistant, short, stout, barrel-shaped spikes, and pale brown, membranous glumes are especially diagnostic of this usually montane to subalpine species. *Carex goyenii* has no obvious close relatives.

### FLOWERING

October–December

### FRUITING

November–June

### LIFE CYCLE

Nuts surrounded by inflated utricles are dispersed by granivory and wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

### PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and by the division of established plants. Excellent for a permanently damp situation in a shaded site but will tolerate full sun and dry conditions once established. The yellow-green foliage is especially attractive.

### ETYMOLOGY

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

### WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

### ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (110 August 2006). Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970)

### REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moore LB, Edgar E. 1970. Flora of New Zealand, Volume II. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Monocotyledones except Gramineae. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 354 p.

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11*: 285–309.

### NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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### MORE INFORMATION

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