

# 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 Rolfe



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## FEATURES

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  
Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. II. Government Printer, Wellington.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Carex cheesemania* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

## MORE INFORMATION

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