

Poa antipoda

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Poa antipoda Petrie

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

POAANT

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

.Endemic. New Zealand: Stewart Island/Rakiura (Herekopere Island), Antipodes Islands, Auckland Island, and Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku.

HABITAT

Coastal on cliffs and rock outcrops; inland on damp banks, and in herbfield.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Soft, ± drooping, light green stoloniferous perennial tufts, c. 20–600 mm rooting at nodes; branching extravaginal; leaf-blades persistent. **Leaf-sheath** light green to light brown, submembranous, distinctly ribbed, glabrous. **Ligule** 1.0–4.5 mm, entire, apically glabrous, gradually narrowed and subacute, abaxially slightly scabrid. **Leaf-blade** 75.–250 × 2–4.5 mm, flat, soft, smooth almost throughout but minutely scabrid abaxially near straight-sided narrow acute tip and adaxially just above ligule. **Culm** 80–500 mm, internodes glabrous. **Panicle** 50–150 mm, ± lax and usually open with spreading branches; rachis usually ± smooth, branches ± smooth to sparsely scabrid. **Spikelets** 4–6 mm, 2–4-flowered, brownish green. **Glumes** ± unequal, narrow-lanceolate, acute to acuminate, glabrous, apart from a few prickle-teeth on midrib in upper ½; lower 1.5–3.0 mm, 1-nerved, upper 2.0–3.5 mm, 3-nerved. **Lemma** 2.5–5.0 mm, 3–5-nerved, ± elliptic, acute, with long hairs on lower ½ of midnerve and at base of lateral nerves and fine prickle-teeth on midnerve above, internerves glabrous or sometimes slightly scabrid near tip. **Palea** 2–4 mm, keels shortly ciliate-scabrid, interkeel glabrous. **Callus** with narrow tuft of long fine hairs. **Rachilla** 0.5 mm, glabrous; prolongation twice as long. **Lodicules** 0.4–0.5 mm. **Anthers** 0.5–1 mm. **Seeds** not seen.



MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

Key to the grasses of New Zealand

FLOWERING

October–November

FRUITING

Seed not yet seen.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult in warmer climates. Rather slow growing.

THREATS

Not threatened. Listed because it is a narrow range endemic which is naturally uncommon throughout its known range.

ETYMOLOGY

poa: Meadow grass

antipoda: Named after the Antipodes i.e. Australia or New Zealand which are on the opposite side of the world from Europe

WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

ATTRIBUTION

Description modified from Edgar and Connor (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Edgar E, Connor HE. 2000. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Manaaki Whenua Press, Christchurch, NZ. 650 p.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/poa-antipoda/>