

# Scirpus georgianus

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Sedges

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Leafy tufts 60–150 cm high. **Stems** stout, 3-angled, leafy at base and with 3–5 evenly spaced cauline leaves. **Leaves** < stems, 5–10 mm wide, double-folded but flattened, margins very finely scabrid. **Inflorescence** a terminal compound irregular umbel with unequal erect rays 1–10 cm long, secondary rays widely spreading, often almost at right angles; leaf-like bracts c. 3, longest usually > inflorescence. **Spikelets**  $\pm$  3 mm long, ovate, in clusters of 5–10 at tips of rays. **Glumes**  $\pm$  1.5 mm long, dark brown, membranous, with a thick green excurrent midrib. **Hypogynous bristles** 0 in N.Z. specimen [present or absent in American Plants]. **Stamens** 3. **Stigmas** 3. **Nut** slightly < 1 mm long, ellipsoid, trigonous with slightly thickened angles, shining, cream.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Superficially similar to the large sedge *Scirpus polystachyus*, vegetatively could be confused with *Bolboschoenus*.

## DISTRIBUTION

North Island, Hokianga. South Island, North West Nelson.

## HABITAT

Damp ground on tracksides or rank pasture.

## GENUS

Scirpus

## FAMILY

Cyperaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Scirpus georgianus* R.M.Harper

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## YEAR NATURALISED

1964

## ORIGIN

North America

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

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



Large patch seen in rank pasture, Pangaru Hokianga. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 18/12/2020, Licence: CC BY.



Large patch seen in rank pasture, Pangaru Hokianga. Photographer: Marley Ford, Date taken: 18/12/2020, Licence: CC BY.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Webb CJ, Sykes WR, Garnock-Jones PJ. 1988. Flora of New Zealand, Volume IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons. Botany Division, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Christchurch, NZ. 1365 p.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by Marley Ford (27 July 2022). Features copied from Webb et al. (1988).

Some of this factsheet information is derived from [Flora of New Zealand Online](#) and is used under a [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 New Zealand licence](#).

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/scirpus-georgianus/>

## PDF DATE

07 June 2026