

Glossary

bract:	an often long, leafy process attached just below the seed head
basal bracts:	reduced leaves at the base of each set of leaves, enclosing a stem
glume:	a small chaffy bract covering each utricle in the seed head
scabrid (of stem):	rough to touch
(of seed):	teeth visible with a hand lens, especially at the base of the hook
utricle:	the swollen part below the hook - actually a special organ loosely enveloping the nut-like fruit.
stem: (or culm),	the main axis supporting and bearing the seed head

References

- Moore, LB; Edgar, E 1970: *Flora of New Zealand Vol II*. Govt. Printer, Wellington.
- Simpson MAJ, Edgar E 1979: Sedges (Cyperaceae) of Banks Peninsula, including (Kaitorete) Ellesmere Spit, Lyttleton Hills & north to New Brighton. *Canterbury Botanical Society Journal* 13: 3-19a.

ARE WE MISSING SOMETHING?

Again, as in New Zealand, arborescent ferns, with the aspect of palms, give these distant landscapes an appearance which is seen in no other part.

The impenetrable virgin forest alarms us by its sombre and terrible aspect. On one side vigorous parasites assail the aged trees, forming with them an inextricable net-work which the axe can scarcely cleave, whilst all progress through it is impeded by bushes and tall herbs, where so many redoubtable enemies lie concealed. During the day all is silent: the frightful heat paralyzes the tenants of this realm of vegetation, and sleep reigns everywhere. But when night arrives all becomes full of life; birds, mammals, and reptiles declare war on one another, and every part rings with groans and hoarse cries of pain and death.

Pouchet, The Universe 1884