Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

Isachne sharpii B.K.Simon

Family:

Poaceae



Simon, B.K. (2010) Austrobaileya 8(2): 206-209. Type: Queensland. Cook District: Palm Road, Cape Tribulation, 21 April 2001, D.Sharp 293.

Stem

Creeping grass, leaves distichous.

Leaves

Leaf blades ca. $2.6-5.5 \times 0.7-1.3$ cm. Petioles (free part) 0-2 mm long. Margins of leaf sheath ciliate. Ligule ciliate. Some leaves hairy on both surfaces, especially the upper surface. Some leaves glabrous. Sheath ca. 8-15 mm long.

Flowers

Panicles terminal, sparsely branched, few spikelets. Each spikelet has 2 florets, one bisexual and one female. Glumea ca. 3 mm long, minutely hairy. Florets face each other with a flat surface. Lemma ca. 2 x 1 mm, concave, no awn. Palea <2 x 1 mm, slightly smaller than lemma. Stamens 3, ca. 1.25 mm long, filaments ca 0.5 mm long. Ovary green with transluicent lodicules, ca. 0.5 mm long, fleshy. Style and stigma ca. 1 mm long. Stigma purple, plumose.

Fruit

Fruit ca. 2 mm long, flat on one side. Endosperm white, granular. Embryo opaque, more or less globular, <0.25 mm diam.

Distribution and Ecology

Known only from a small area near Cape Tribulation in NEQ. Altitudinal range near sea level. Grows in Licuala swamp forest and rainforest in damp soil or in shallow water.

Synonyms

Isachne sp. Cape Tribulation (R.L.Jago 4560). Type: Provisional name.

RFK Code

4308

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