

Oplismenus aemulus
(Poaceae)

Oplismenus aemulus

- Common name:** Creeping beard grass.
- Localities:** Kholo Creek, Rafting Ground; Upper Brookfield; widespread and common in moist, shaded situations throughout the district.
- Growth form:** An attractive, trailing, perennial grass, the stems rooting at the nodes.
- Foliage:** Leaf blades are broad, up to 8 cm long and 2 cm wide.
- Flowers and fruit:** Flowers are borne on short racemes on inflorescences up to about 6 cm long. The bracts at the base of the flowers are awned.
- Habitat:** Common as a ground-cover plant in moist, shaded situations.
- Propagation and Management:** Creeping beard grass may be propagated by dividing stolons or by seed. It requires little attention other than some shade and some moisture. It may be removed without difficulty, if desired.
- General:** Two related species (*O. undulatifolius* and *O. hirtellus*) also occur in our district, in similar situations.

