

# IAATO Barley Watch

## Background

During the 2011/2012 season a gospel group was found scattering barley seeds as part of a spiritual ritual in Deception Island. The group were stopped, and to the best of the field staff's ability, the seeds collected. There is an assumption that some seeds remained.

While barley is not believed to be viable in Antarctic temperatures, IAATO has instituted a "Barley Watch" to monitor for any possible propagation.

## Action requested

All expedition staff are requested to be on barley watch when in Deception Island, particularly around Telefon Bay area. In the event that any staff member sees any barley seedlings in this area, they are please to follow the guidelines on finding non-native species (FOM 6e) and to report the occurrence and location to IAATO ([iaato@iaato.org](mailto:iaato@iaato.org)) as soon as possible. Barley seedlings have a fairly broad, long leaf and do not resemble any native plant to the Antarctic (See illustration below)

