

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower cluster. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens. Canberra, ACT



Seed cases. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer N Lamb, Australian National Botanic Gardens. Canberra, ACT



Flowering plants. Photographer Jackie Miles, Waterfall, Sydney

Common name

Giant Lily, Gynea Lily

Family

Doryanthaceae

Where found

Dry **forest** and **woodland**. Widely planted. Coastal north from Kiama. On and near the Great Western Highway, Blue Mountains.

Notes

Perennial herb to 5 m high or more. Basal leaves numerous, in a **rosette**, 100-250 cm long, 100 mm wide, sword-shaped, hairless. Stem leaves spiralling up the flower stalk, to 30 cm long. Flowers pinkish red (paler within) or rarely white, 10–16 cm long, with 6 '**petals**' each 6–12 cm long, united shortly at the base, in 2 **whorls**, more or less curved down at maturity. **Bracts** just below the flowers reddish. Flowers in many-flowered globular clusters, to 70 cm diameter. Seed cases red-brown at maturity, 7–10 cm long.

Protected NSW.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Doryanthes~excelsa> (accessed 12 January, 2021)

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