

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra



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## Common name

River Mat-rush

## Family

Asparagaceae

## Where found

Creek beds on sandy soils. Coast and ranges north from Port Kembla. Occasionally elsewhere.

## Notes

Tufted **perennial** herb. Flower stems flattened. Leaves basal, 25–75 cm long, 0.5–2.5 mm wide; concavo-convex or channelled, tips 2- or 3-toothed, the **lateral** teeth usually longest. Margins of the basal leaf **sheaths lacerated**, dark reddish brown. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers with 6 '**petals**'. Male flowers 3–3.5 mm long, female flowers about 4.5 mm long. Outer '**petals**' shiny, dry, purplish or yellow; inner 'petals' dull, fleshy, yellow or cream. Male **inflorescence** a third to nearly as long as the leaves, branched; the axis of the inflorescence below the flowers usually 2–3 times as long as the inflorescence. Female inflorescence often unbranched, the axis of the inflorescence below the flowers longer in relation to the length of the inflorescence, otherwise similar to the male inflorescence. **Bracts** at the base of the individual flower clusters conspicuous, slightly, to much longer than, the flowers, reddish or golden brown on the margins. Flowering: spring.

Family Lomandraceae in PlantNET.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Lomandra-fluviatilis> (accessed 13 April 2021)

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