

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower head and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, near Nowra



Fruiting heads and leaves. Photographer Don Wood, Booderee National Park, Jervis Bay Territory



Plant. Photographer Richard Hartland, Longwarry, Vic

## Common name

Spiny-headed mat-rush, Honey reed

## Family

Asparagaceae

## Where found

**Forest, woodland, grassland**, rocky areas, and a variety of other **habitats**. Widespread.

## Notes

Tufted **perennial** herb to 1 m tall, forming dense tussocks. **Bracts** below the flower clusters sharp pointed. Flower stems flattened. Leaves basal, flat or slightly concavo-convex in cross section, occasionally rolled, 30–100 cm long, 2–10 mm wide, hairless, tips 2- or 3-toothed, central tooth within a pronounced **sinus**, or longer than the **lateral** teeth. Margins of the basal leaf **sheaths** intact or coarsely torn, brown, orange-brown or reddish brown, occasionally white. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers with 6 '**petals**', male flowers 3–4 mm long, female flowers about 4.5 mm long. Outer '**petals**' shiny, papery, purplish or yellow; inner '**petals**' dull, fleshy, yellow or cream. Male and female **inflorescence** similar, **simple** or branched; the axis of the inflorescence below the flowers distinct, much shorter to much longer than the inflorescence. Individual flower clusters in **whorls**. Bracts below the flower clusters sharp-pointed, usually conspicuous, to 20 mm long, longer to much longer than the flowers, rarely shorter than the flower clusters or apparently absent, whitish. Flowering: spring-summer.

Family Lomandraceae in PlantNET.

All native plants on unleased land in the ACT are protected.

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

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