

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowering plant. Photographer Don Wood, Booderee Botanic Gardens, Jervis Bay Territory



Flowering plant. Photographer Jackie Miles, Barren Grounds west of Kiama

Common name

A grass-tree

Family

Xanthorrhoeaceae

Where found

Dry **forest**, **woodland**, **heath**, and grassy areas, usually in seasonally wet sites. Coast and ranges.

Notes

Shrub-like **perennial** herb. Trunk absent or to 0.6 m high. Trunk with a pithy core surrounded by the flattened glossy bases of old leaves. **Scape** below the **spike** usually 0.7–2.2 m long, 10–30 mm in diameter, flower spike 0.6–1.2 m long, 20–45 mm in diameter. Leaves basal or clustered at the top of the trunk, usually forming a single **spreading** to almost **erect** tuft. Leaves 2–4 mm wide, 1.5–2.5 mm thick, blue-green, **glaucous**, diamond shaped, occasionally concave, in cross section. It produces a yellowish resinous exudate at the bases of the leaves. Individual flowers with 6 '**petals**' in two rows, outer '**petals**' papery or more or less membranous, inner '**petals**' membranous. **Bracts** surrounding the flowers obscure or prominent only at the base of the spike, pointed. Bracts between the flowers pointed, and densely hairy, dark brown. Flowering: August–February.

Protected NSW.

Was *Xanthorrhoea resinifera*.

Family Asphodelaceae in Vic.

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

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