

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower. Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Hawaii.



Seeds in open seed cases. Photographer Tatiana Gerus from Brisbane, Australia



Flowering plant. Photographers Forest & Kim Starr, Hawaii.

Common name

Bird of Paradise Tree, Natal Wild Banana

Family

Strelitziaceae

Where found

Garden **escape**. Sydney area.

Notes

Introduced tree-like plant to 12 m tall, multi-stemmed, forming dense clumps. Leaves opposite each other, making a palm-like **crown**, to 2 m long, **entire** or broken into ribbons by the wind, grey-green and shining. Flowers with 3 white petal-like **sepals** and 3 blue to bluish purple **petals**, 2 petals joined together to form an arrow-like structure with a central channel containing the **stamens** and **style**, the third (uppermost) much smaller. Flowers to 500 mm long. Flowers emerge one at a time from the stiff purplish to dark blue boat-shaped **spathe**. Seeds black, with a bright orange **woolly aril** attached.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Strelitzia~nicolai> (accessed 30 January 2021)

SANBI description: <http://pza.sanbi.org/strelitzia-nicolai> (accessed 30 January 2021)

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This identification key and fact sheets are available as a free mobile application:



Android edition



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