

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers on stalk. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Lake Macquarie Conservation Area, Lake Macquarie



Flowering stalks. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Lake Macquarie Conservation Area, Lake Macquarie



Flowering plant. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Lake Macquarie Conservation Area, Lake Macquarie

## Common name

A grass-tree

## Family

Xanthorrhoeaceae

## Where found

Dry **forest** on sandstone, usually on drier, more exposed ridges and hillsides. Coast, ranges, and Southern Highlands, north from east of Marulan.

## Notes

**Shrub**-like **perennial** herb, trunk absent or to 0.3 m high. Trunk with a pithy core surrounded by the flattened glossy bases of old leaves. **Scap**e below the **spike** 1–2.1 m long, 7–11 mm in diameter, flower spike 0.35–0.90 m long, 20–27 mm in diameter. Leaves basal or clustered at the top of the trunk, forming a usually single approximately hemispherical **crow**n. Leaves 2–2.8 mm wide, 1.1–1.5 mm thick, mid to dark green, not **glau**cous, diamond shaped in cross section. Individual flowers with 6 '**petals**' in two rows, outer '**petals**' papery or more or less membranous, inner '**petals**' membranous. **Bracts** surrounding the flowers almost obscure, sometimes at the base of the spike only, pointed to narrow-triangular, and hairy on the lower surface. Bracts between the flowers pointed, and hairless to moderately hairy. Flowering: August–March.

Protected NSW.

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

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