

## Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

# *Aristida queenslandica* var. *dissimilis* (S.T.Blake) B.K.Simon

### Family:

Poaceae

Simon, B.K. (1984) *Austrobaileya* 2(1): 96.

### Stem

Loosely clumped perennial. Culms erect, 25-100 cm long, 1-2 mm diam., with 2-4 nodes. Culm-internodes smooth to scaberulous, distally glabrous or hirsute.

### Leaves

Leaf-sheaths scaberulous; oral hairs 2-3 mm long, 1-3 mm long. Ligule a fringe of hairs 0.2-0.5 mm long. Lamina curled, 20-40 cm long and 2 mm wide, glabrous adaxially with 5 primary veins, rough abaxially.

### Flowers

Inflorescence an open panicle, elliptic, 9-64 x 2-4.5 cm. Primary panicle branches 5-11 cm long with orange glands at their bases. Spikelets solitary. Fertile spikelets pedicelled, comprising of 1 fertile floret, without rhachilla extension. Spikelets lanceolate, subterete, 6.2-10.5 mm long; breaking up at maturity, disarticulating below each fertile floret. Floret callus elongated, 0.5-0.8 mm long; pubescent, acute. Glumes deciduous; similar, exceeding apex of florets, thinner than fertile lemma. Lower glume lanceolate, 5.2-11 mm long, 0.8-1 times length of upper glume, membranous, without lateral veins, scabrous, apex acute, or acuminate, mucronate. Upper glume lanceolate, 5-10 mm long, 0.8-1.2 times length of adjacent fertile lemma, membranous, keeled, surface smooth to scabrous, apex acute, or acuminate, mucronate, awned. Fertile lemma lanceolate, subterete, 5-12 mm long, coriaceous, pallid and light brown, 3 -veined. Lemma surface scaberulous, margins involute and covering most of palea, apex acute, 3 -awned (1 long + 2 short). Principal lemma awn with 8-16 mm long limb, without a column, persistent. Lateral lemma awns 3-10 mm long, shorter than principal. Palea 0.2 times length of lemma, without keels. Anthers 3, 0.9-1.9 mm long.

### Fruit

Caryopsis with adherent pericarp, sulcate on hilar side, 4.1-6.1 mm long. Hilum linear, 0.3-0.5 times the length of the caryopsis.

### Seedlings

Features not available.

### Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in NEQ, CEQ and southwards to north-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 780 m. Grows in closed forest, Eucalypt forest, deciduous vine thicket, various types of woodland, shrubland and in wooded grassland.

### Synonyms

*Aristida dissimilis* S.T.Blake, *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland* 51: 170(1940), Type: QUEENSLAND. North Kennedy District: Townsville, ..exposed rocky slopes of Castle Hill, ..June 7th. 1934, Blake 5945.

### RFK Code

4241

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