

# *Neololeba atra* (Lindl.) Widjaja

Family:  
Poaceae

Widjaja, E.A. (1997) *Reinwardtia* 11: 114.

Common name:  
Bamboo; Cape Bamboo; Bamboo, Cape

## Stem

Plants consist of a number of stems about 2-4 cm diam. growing in clumps and attaining a height of 6-7 m but often much smaller.

## Leaves

Leaf blade margin armed with microscopic teeth visible with a x10 lens. Leaf blades about 30 x 6-7 cm or larger, venation fine, longitudinal and parallel. Ligules with fimbriate margins.

## Flowers

Flowering branches about 50-110 cm long, branched at the lower nodes. Spikelets produced in tufts at the nodes. Spikelets flat, up to 10 mm long. Anthers about 4.5 mm long. Ovary gradually tapering into a flat style with three stigmas.

## Fruit

Features not available.

## Seedlings

Features not available.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 200 m. Grows as an understory plant in gallery forest and other types of rain forest. Often forms a dense layer of tangled stems both living and dead which is difficult to traverse even with the aid of a brushhook. Also occurs in New Guinea, the Moluccas, northern Sulawesi and the Philippines.

## Natural History & Notes

An attractive clumping species, not yet well known, which has potential in horticulture. The stems have numerous uses.

The dead canes of this species are useful when lighting billy fires even in wet weather.

## Synonyms

**Bambusa atra** Lindl., *Penny Cyclopaedia* 3: 357(1815), Type: Ambon, Caju Poeti, Robinson 33, Epi: K, L, BO. **Gigantochloa novoguineensis** Rendle in Gibbs, *Dutch NW. New Guinea* : 199(1917), Type: Manokwari, Gibbs 6270a; Holo: K, Iso: BM. **Arundinaria cobonii** F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agric. Jour.* 20: 71(1908), Type: Head of the Starcke River, J. J. Cobon; holo: BRI?. **Arundarbor tenuis nigra** Rumph., *Hb. Amb.* 4: t. 1(1743). **Bambusa lineata** Munro, *Trans. Linn. Soc.* 16: 118(1868). **Bambusa forbesii** (Ridl.) Holttum, *Kew Bulletin* 21: 271(1966). **Dendrocalamus forbesii** Ridl., *Journ. Bot.* 24: 360(1886), Type: Papua, Sogere, Forbes 153; holo: SING, Iso: BM?, L?.

## RFK Code

3367



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