

Lomandra maritima

MARITIME MAT-RUSH

T.S.Choo

Flowering period: August–September.**Description:** Rhizomatous, tufted perennial, grass-like herb to 60 cm high, up to 50 cm wide, with older leaves distinctly coiling when dry. Plants are male or female and produce flowers at the base of the 30–60 cm long, shallowly channelled leaves. Male flowers on 3–10 cm long stems that are shorter than the leaves. Female flowers are almost sessile, hidden at the base of the plant. Seeds are produced in hardened woody capsules that split when dried to release a number of translucent, 2 mm wide seeds.**Pollination:** Unknown.**Distribution:** From Geraldton to Bunbury in stable secondary dunes or in areas protected from sand drift. Often found in low heathland vegetation.**Propagation:** Difficult to propagate; however, some limited success has been achieved using divisions of mother plants that have been maintained under nursery conditions. Divide the plant into segments containing one or two shoots and plant directly into pots ready for transfer to the restoration site.**Uses in restoration:** A widespread and highly adaptable species that should be used more widely in coastal restoration programs particularly in stabilised areas. However, propagation difficulties make this species rarely seen in nurseries.**Notes:** Useful in coastal landscaping as the species has attractive foliage that remains green even under water stress conditions, making the plant an ideal subject for water-wise gardens.

Habit



R. Barrett

Fruit



Flowers



Distribution