

Grass Trees

Xanthorrhoea australias

What is it?

Grass trees are very slow growing plants which can have a life-span for up to 600 years. It has a roughened black trunk up to 3m in height with a grassy top of long blue-green leaves up to 2m in length with spiky ends. The trunk can take decades to form as it consists of old leaf matter held together with natural resin, with a maximum growth of 2cm per year. Mature plants will flower every 2-3 years, producing a large flowering spear up to 2m in height from the centre of the trunk.



Where do they occur?

Xanthorrhoea will thrive in any areas with good drainage and full sun, but are commonly seen growing naturally throughout wooded areas, scrubland and heathlands in New South Wales, as natural bushfires can encourage flowering and seed production.

