

The Urrbrae Wetland

Kangaroo Grass

Themeda Triandra

Indigenous Plant Trail

The Urrbrae wetland indigenous plant trail consists of a number of provenance plants that were used by Aboriginal People for food, medicine, fiber and tools.

Each of these plants is marked with a small sign, containing information about the traditional uses and cultural importance of the plant.

Kurana people have been consulted throughout this project, however the majority of information printed here and on the signs is from published resources.

Do NOT pick or remove any plant material.

Education @ the wetland

Groups are welcome to take a self-guided tour of the Indigenous Plant Trail. An activity booklet is provided, that encourages students observe, record and analyse the types of local plants that assisted the Aboriginal people to live successfully and sustainably for 1000'S of years.

To plan your visit, please contact the Wetland Manager or visit the Urrbrae Wetland Website www.urrbraewetlandlc.org

Description: Kangaroo grass is a tall, dense tussock grass that can grow up to 1m high and was once the dominate grass over the Adelaide Plains.

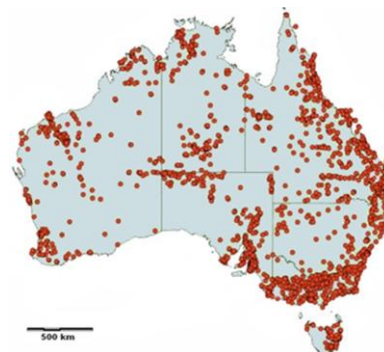
Its drooping leaf blades are mid to dark green in summer but tend to brown off during the winter months.

Mature flower heads are present in late summer and are rusty red in colour, with each flower head producing about 4 seeds, which have an obvious black awn attached.

Other Information: Kangaroo grass was so dense on the eastern side of the Adelaide CBD that settlers got lost on the way from town to Norwood [2].

Aboriginal Uses: The seeds were harvested, separated and ground into flour using grinding stones.

The flour was mixed with Water and baked to make damper.



Distribution Map [2]



References

[1] Bagust, P & Tout-Smith, L (2010) 'The Native Plants of Adelaide: Returning the vanishing natural heritage of the Adelaide plains to your garden', Government of South Australia's Department for Environment and Heritage, South Australia.

[2] Florabank, 'Themeda triandra', http://www.florabank.org.au/lucid/key/species%20navigator/media/html/Themeda_triandra.htm

Bonney, N (1994) 'What Seed is that?', Finsbury Press Pty. Ltd., Adelaide, South Australia
Parks, Conservation and Lands 'Indigenous Plant Use: Tiddinbilla Region', Department of Territory and Municipal Services, www.tams.act.gov.au

Contact

Wetland Manager

Ph/Fax: (08) 8272 6010

Mobile: 0403 447 064

Email: wetlands@urrbraehs.sa.edu.au

Website: www.urrbraewetlandlc.org



Urrbrae Wetland does not guarantee, and accepts no legal liability whatsoever arising from or connected to, the use of or reliance on any material contained on this fact sheet or on any linked site. Do not pick or eat native plants as removal of plant material as some plants contain poisonous substances.