



# *Austrostipa nodosa*

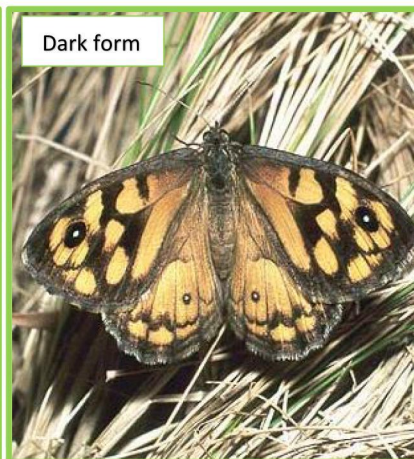
## Tall Spear-grass



(Murfet, D, Seeds of South Australia)



South Australian Seed Conservation Centre



Dark form



Pale form

Adult  
Common  
Xenica

(Grund, R, SA Butterflies & Moths)

**Form:** Sedge or Flax **Height:** 1 – 1 m **Spread:** 1 – 1 m **Flowers:** Brown **Type:** Grass panicle **Flowering time:** Spring, Winter

**Ecological functions:**



**Soils:** sand, clay or loam; acidic, alkaline or neutral **Germination rate:** 2 to 4 weeks

**Seed collecting:** gently strip the seeds off the mature fruiting spike. Mature seeds are brown and will come off easily. Place in a tray and leave to dry for 2 weeks. If seed spikes are collected, use hand to strip off the mature seeds. Store the seeds with a dessicant in an air tight container in a cool and dry place.

**Seed treatment:** none

**Sowing requirements:** push the seed points into the soil and firm gently. Then cover with a layer of gravel. Sow in Autumn.

**Position:** full sun

**Supplementary watering:** minimal

**Uses:** an ornamental tufting perennial for mixed native landscapes, borders, and wider verges. Food host to Common Xenic (*Geitoneura klugii*) caterpillars.

**Notes:** requires well-drained soils.