

Dianella brevicaulis **Short Stem Flax Lily**







Adult Southern Grass-dart (Fisher, R, SA Butterflies & Moths)



Adult Greenish Grass-dart (Grund, R, SA Butterflies & Moths)

(Cox, G, iNaturalist Australia)

Form: Sedge or Flax **Height:** 0.3 – 1 m

(Murfet, D, Seeds of South Australia)

Spread: $0.5 - 2.5 \, m$ **Flowers:** *Blue*

Type: Star

Flowering time: Spring, Summer

Ecological functions:







Soils: sand, clay or loam; acidic, alkaline or neutral **Germination rate:** 3 to 8 weeks

Seed collecting: wearing gloves, collect fruits that are losing colour or drying off. Allow to dry. Once dry rub firmly to dislodge shiny black seeds. Store in cool dry area.

Seed treatment: seed packet will contain either pure seed or seed still in the fruit. Split fruits to release seed if needed. Stratification by cold treatment can help break dormancy.

Sowing requirements: cover with 2 mm of damp soil and firm gently. Then cover with a layer of gravel. Sow in late Summer to early Spring. Requires well-drained soils.

Position: full shade

Supplementary watering: minimal

Uses: can be used as an understorey or in association with a water feature. Tolerates moderate coastal exposure. Rare food host to Southern Grass-dart (Ocybadistes walkeri hypochlorus) and Greenish Grass-dart (Ocybadistes walkeri sothis) caterpillars.

Notes: unedible, harmful if eaten. Do not

Sources: Botanical Gardens of South Australia; Seeds of South Australia; Trees For Life Tree Scheme: Grower's Handbook'; SA Butterflies & Moths; "What Seed is that?"