



# Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata

## Mount Lofty Grass Tree



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**Form:** *Medium shrub*    **Height:** *3 - 5 m*    **Spread:** *1 – 1.5 m*    **Flowers:** *Cream*    **Type:** *Spikes*    **Flowering time:** *Winter, Spring*

**Ecological functions:**  **Soils:** *Clay, loam, sand, acidic, alkaline, neutral*    **Germination rate:** *4 to 52 weeks*

**Seed collecting:** Place material underneath the flowering stalk and bend it over to shake out the many black seeds. Alternatively prise out from the seed capsule with tweezers.

**Seed treatment:** Scarification can help i.e. scratching the coat with sandpaper.

**Sowing requirements:** Sow seeds into propagating tray or tubestocks. Cover with 2mm soil or fine gravel. Keep moist and place in open sunny area. Sow in Spring or Autumn. Needs good drainage.

**Position:** Full sun.

**Supplementary watering:** Minimal.

**Uses:** Specimen plant.

**Notes:** The species are very slow growing and require well-drained soil to thrive. They start off with a spectacular fountain lamp shape and can take years until they make its traditional black trunk. The flower spike takes 5 to 10 years to flower. Food source for Black Tailed Cockatoos and other birds.