Aristida holathera var holathera

Kerosene grass

Seed with awn
**Aristida holathera var holathera**

**Kerosene grass**

**Plant features**

**Growth form**
Annual or perennial, C4, clumping grass with erect stiff stems. 23–128mm high. The plant often has a purple tinge.

**Leaves**
The leaf sheaths wrap tightly around the stems and are either hairless or have a fringe of hairs around the leaf base. The leaves are mid green in colour.

**Flowers**
Inflorescence is a compound of yellow, brown or purple flowers usually held at the top of the plant. Flowers Mar-May.

**Fruits**
The seed head can be up to 200mm long and contains spikelets with three awns that are twisted together over about half their length. The actual seed is on the end of these awns.

**Distribution**
Found across the Avon catchment as well as most of WA excluding the far south west and in all mainland states.

**Zone, habitat**
Occurs in sands, loams and gravels, on floodfringes, the drier end of floodways and across the landscape.

**Additional information**
A useful grass species for revegetating sandy floodfringes and drier floodways due to its network of roots and foliage at ground level stabilise the soil. Often seen growing naturally on poor sand soils where it is able to out-compete weed species. Does not tolerate waterlogging but is slightly salt tolerant. Plants can be grown from tubestock or direct seeded. Is an important food source and habitat for a range fauna, especially ground dwelling species.