

Triodia plurinervata

Name

Triodia plurinervata N.T.Burb

Citation

Austral. J. Bot. 8: 390–391 (1960)

Derivation

plurinervata — from Latin *plur-*, many, and *nervus*, nerves, in reference to the many-nerved (≥ 5) glumes.

Common name

West Coast Spinifex

Synonyms

None

Diagnostic features

Foliage non-resinous; leaf sheath surfaces glabrous or with shortly hairy margins; orifice minutely hairy with hairs < 0.2 mm long; inflorescences unbranched; pedicels 0–2 mm long; leaf blades non-resinous, amphistomatous (hard-type); lower glume elliptic, 5–8-nerved; lemmas entire or shortly lobed, uniformly textured (indurated for most of their length and scarcely differentiated from lobes), not awned; lowest lemma midlobe 0–0.5 mm long; distribution in subcoastal sand plains of the Carnarvon bioregion and further south.

Habitat

Occurs on subcoastal sand plains.

Distribution and frequency

Endemic to subcoastal Western Australia. Only in the extreme south-western portion of the area considered here, extending south along the coast.

Similar species

Triodia plurinervata is a member of the Basedowii group, sharing the group features of non-resinous foliage, amphistomatous (hard-type) leaf blades and many-nerved (≥ 6) glumes.

It is distinguished from all other Basedowii group species except *T. infesta* and *T. mallota* by having an unbranched inflorescence (lacking side-branches and spikelets inserted directly on the main axis), and short pedicels 1–2 mm long (inflorescence either branched, or if unbranched then longest basal pedicels more than 3 mm long in other species).

Triodia mallota is distinguished by being densely woolly on sheath surfaces (glabrous or with shortly hairy margins in *T. plurinervata*), and occurs near Pannawonica in the Pilbara.

Triodia plurinervata is distinguished from *T. infesta* by having shorter spikelets (5–9.8 mm long) shorter glumes (3–4.2 mm long), and subcoastal distribution compared to *T. infesta* (spikelets 12.5–17 mm long; glumes 5.2–6.2 mm long and distribution in the interior).

Conservation status

Not considered at risk.

Identification without florets

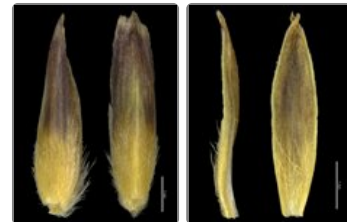


T. plurinervata spikelet. *T. plurinervata* orifice and sheath.

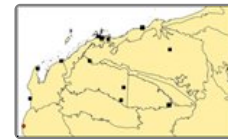


T. plurinervata leaf section.

T. plurinervata glumes.



T. plurinervata lemmas. *T. plurinervata* paleas.



T. plurinervata map.

Triodia infesta is the only species in the Carnarvon bioregion that has an unbranched inflorescence.

Variation

A uniform species.

Notes

The concept of *T. plurinervata* in Lazarides (1997), Lazarides *et al.* (2005) and *Ausgrass* (Sharp & Simon, 2002; Simon & Alonso, 2014) included the inland forms now named as *T. infesta*.

A full description of *T. plurinervata* can be found in Anderson *et al.* (2017a).