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SALTdeck Series

STREAKED ARROWGRASS Triglochin striatum

H10

HERB



STREAKED ARROWGRASS *Triglochin striatum*

Family: Juncaginaceae.

Description: Erect perennial often less than 30 cm tall, but occasionally to 50 cm. Leaves in tufts on an extensive rhizome. Flowerhead an erect spike to 15 cm long. Flowers green. Fruit round to egg-shaped, 1.5–3 mm long, on a short stalk, spirally arranged on a spike (see photo). Flowers spring to autumn.

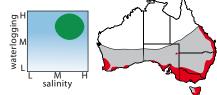
Key features: Absence of tubers (other species of *Triglochin* usually with tubers), presence of a sheath and a membranous ligule, and narrow leaves that are cylindrical or flat and strap-like.

Value: Palatable to sheep, moderate feed energy value, but recovers slowly from grazing. Remains green during summer where it has access to groundwater. May form large patches but usually part of the salt tolerant mix of plants in saline land. Rhizomatous habit and dense cover reduces the potential for erosion.

Salinity and waterlogging tolerance: High tolerance to salt and waterlogging.

Notes: Native to all States, North and South America and southern Africa. Useful indicator of salinity. Grows widely along the coast and in Victoria is widespread inland. Thrives in coastal saltmarsh and common in the low marsh inundated zone. Flowers in summer, and produces much seed from which it is easy to propagate. A good pioneer plant.

References: *Flora of South Australia*, Jessop and Toelken (eds), Part 4, 4th edition, 1986. *Flora of Victoria*, Walsh and Entwisle (eds), Vol. 2, 1994. *Flora of NSW*, Harden (ed), Vol. 4, 1993. *Waterplants in Australia*, Sainty and Jacobs, 4th edition 2003.





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