

## Lomandra Hystrix or Green Mat-rush

*Lomandra hystrix*



Family: Xanthorrhoeaceae

A perennial, rhizomatous herb to 2 m



**Distribution:** north of Taree NSW

**Description:** Can form clumps up to 2m high. Leaves are smooth, flat and long, pointed, with teeth on each side of the main point (which is the most outwardly reaching one) shaped rather like the Chrysler building in New York. *Lomandra longifolia* differs in that these side teeth usually are equal if not longer than the central one (a W shape). Flowers grow along the branchlets of the inflorescence, yellow or cream in Spring and Summer.

**Propagation:** propagates by seed or clump division. When the fruits are matured and turn brown, sow the seed in moist soil for 6 weeks.

**Habitat:** Found near or in creeks on sandy soils and river stones. Clings on tenaciously in poor soils, despite sometimes having roots exposed.

**Uses:** The leaves make strong nets and baskets, and the seeds can be ground for use in damper. The base of the leaves is also used as food. Good border plant for bush regeneration. Strong enough to withstand inundation, can out-compete invasive weeds once established, filters the water and stabilises creek banks.