

Swamp Lily

Crinum pendunculatum



Family: Amaryllidaceae

Bulbous perennial 2 – 3 m
with white fragrant flowers



Distribution: Northern Territory, Queensland and NSW, as well as New Guinea and some Pacific Islands.

Description: This large and hardy lily has a 2 -3 m spread. The leaves are strappy and thickened, with blunt points. The flowers, occurring from November to March, are white and about 10cm across in clusters of 10-25. They are pleasantly perfumed. They are followed by rounded, beaked seed capsules.

Propagation: The flowers produce a small bulb, or the larger bulbs in the ground may be transplanted.

Habitat: Stream and tidal areas, and forest edges, but also at the high tide level close to mangroves. Prefers a shaded position, but also grows in full sun. Tolerates poor drainage and clay soils, and can be planted successfully under established eucalypts.

Uses: The sap has been used as an antidote for marine stingers. Contains the alkaloid *lycorine*.