

Allocasuarina verticillata

Drooping Sheoak



(Moysel, W, iNaturalist Australia)



(Taylor, R, Seeds of South Australia)



(Allocasuarina verticillata, Seeds of South Australia)



Form: *Medium tree* **Height:** *5 – 8 m* **Spread:** *4 – 6 m* **Flowers:** *Red, Yellow* **Type:** *Spikes* **Flowering time:** *Autmun, Winter*

Ecological functions:



Soils: *sand, clay or loam; alkaline, acidic or neutral*

Germination rate: *2 to 4 weeks*

Seed collecting: cones can be collected anytime as mature cones remain on the female plant. Collect cones that have closed valves from the lower part of the stem as these are more mature.

Seed treatment: store in refrigerator at 3-5°C.

Sowing requirements: cover with 2 mm of damp soil and firm gently. Then cover with a layer of gravel. Sow all year round. Optimum germination temperature 25-30°C.

Position: full sun

Supplementary watering: minimal

Uses: an ornamental species for shade or shelter. Usually planted en-mass to make an effective screen. Used for food, medicine, implements (boomerangs, shields), adhesive (canoe sealant) by Indigenous peoples.

Notes: seeds lose viability quickly once released from cone. If stored between 3-5°C, they may be viable for 5 to 10 years.