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Botanical name:

*Allocasuarina verticillata*

Common name:

Drooping She-oak

Origin:

Vic., NSW, Tas., SA. Mostly coastal environments.

Typical height:

4-11 metres

Typical width:

3-6 metres

Growth rate:

Fast

Typical form:

Small erect tree with a dense, rounded crown with long drooping branchlets.

Characteristics:

Pendulous branchlets. Fine foliage. Branchlets dull greyish-green, long and drooping. Male flowers yellow to brown in December to March. Cones large, cylindrical to barrel-shaped with valves typically extending well beyond cone body. Bark dark and fissured/furrowed.

Site requirements:

Very adaptable but prefers well-drained soils.

Tolerances:

High drought and wind.

Suitable for use under powerlines:

Potentially with management

Notes:

Golden effect provided by flowers an attractive feature of this tree.





Make excellent screening or windbreak plants.

Facts and trivia:

Trees are dioecious meaning each tree is either male or female. Males develop attractive golden spikes in the late summer, while females bear globular reddish flowers which develop into large seed-bearing cones.

Long needle shaped branchlets have appearance of pine needles but the 'leaves' are actually the tiny leaf teeth seen in whorls around the branchlet nodes.

References:

Spencer, R. (2002). Horticultural flora of south-eastern Australia. UNSW press.

Gray, M. (1993). *Flora of Melbourne*. Hyland House.



Costermans, L. F. (1981). Native trees and shrubs of south-eastern Australia, New Holland Publishers.