PLANT FACT SHEET

Dianella caerulea Sims

GENUS *Dianella* **FAMILY** Asphodelaceae

COMMON NAMES Blue flax lily, Paroo Lily

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Root, Rhizome

The length of rhizomes are pounded and roasted.
The berries are eaten raw when ripe.

DESCRIPTION

A plant which keeps growing from year to year. It forms mats. It grows to 0.5 m high and spreads to 0.3 m across. The stem is erect. The leaves are long and strap like. The clasp the stem at the base. They can be 75 cm long with rough edges. The flowers are blue in loose clusters at the ends of branches. The flowers are star shaped. The fruit are shiny blue berries. They are 7-12 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It will grow on most soils. It can tolerate frost and drought. It suits sheltered and shady positions. It grows in coastal heaths and sand dunes and up to 1,000 m above sea level. Melbourne Botanical Gardens. Adelaide Botanical Gardens. It suits hardiness zones 9-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They can be grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 20-30 Dianella species. Also put in the family Hemerocallidaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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