

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers and leaves. Photographer Richard Hartland, Lake Mountain, Vic



Flowers and leaves. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Tas



Fruit and leaves. Photographer Richard Hartland, Lake Mountain, Vic

Common name

Pineapple Grass, Silver Astelia

Family

Asteliaceae

Where found

Bogs and wet sites in alpine herb fields. Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Perennial herb to 0.3 m tall, mat-forming. Fruit fleshy. Leaves and flower stalks covered with white-silvery **scales**. Leaves basal, in a dense **rosette**, 5–17 cm long, 5–30 mm wide, upper surface green to grey-green, lower surface shiny grey-green to silvery white, tips pointed. Male and female flowers on different plants. Flowers with 6 pale greenish yellow to white '**petals**', each 2–4 mm long in male flowers, 4–6 mm long in female flowers. Male branched cluster protruding above the leaves, 10–50-flowered, 30–100 mm long. Female flowers in a contracted, few-flowered, branched cluster 10–25 mm long, hidden among the leaves. Flowering: late spring to summer. Fruit yellow becoming red.

Finer and less robust than *Astelia psychrocharis*.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lv=sp&name=Astelia~alpina> (accessed 4 January, 2021)

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