

## *Casuarina obesa*

Commonly: Swamp Sheoak

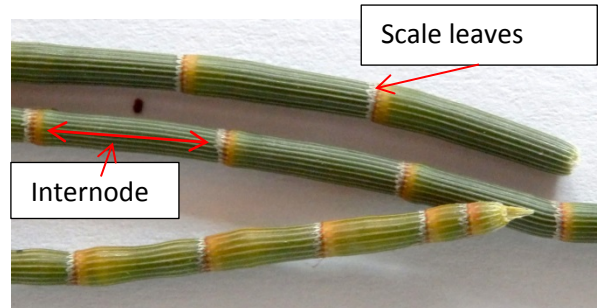
Vascular Plant Family: Casuarinaceae

Flowers recorded throughout the year

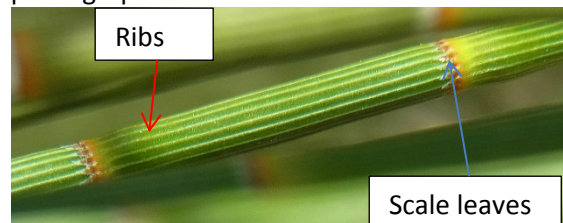
*Casuarina obesa* is a tree up to 10m tall. A young plant can be seen at Wave Walk Car Park where it has been planted at the edge of the track. The trees either have male or female flowers and the one at Peppermint Grove Beach is a male plant.



*Casuarina obesa* has green, wiry and articulated branchlets. The scale leaves are in whorls of 12-15 each whorl represented by ribs along the internodes and small teeth encircling the node.



The rib along the internode and the scale leaves are more obvious in this closer photograph.



The inflorescence is a spike with numerous whorls of bracts. The male spike is cylindrical often over 10cm long, typically stalked with 1 flower in the axil of each bract. Each anther in the following photograph represents 1 male flower.



If a female plant is located the spike is rounded and develops into a pale brown cone up to 2cm long. The nut when discharged is pale brown to grey in colour with a hyaline wing.