

Onion Weed

Asphodelus fistulosus

Natural History Society of South Australia Inc.



Onion weed plants in flower



A dug-out, discarded and dried plant re-roots and re-shoots! Plants need to be destroyed or removed from the area.

Declared plant in South Australia 2013

Native to southern Europe and India.

Description

Erect, succulent, short-lived perennial that produces a lax clump of hollow, cylindrical leaves up to 40 cm long.

Stems rigid and hollow with a silvery white onion-like skin at the base. These look like onion leaves but do not have an onion smell.

Leaves slender, hollow and cylindrical, 1-3 mm wide growing from the base of the plant.

Flowers 1.5 cm in diameter, 6 white petals with a brownish central stripe, and are carried in alternating clusters on a branched stem to 60 cm high, Aug-Nov.

Fruit a globular wrinkled capsule, 4-6 mm in diameter in 3 segments, each containing 1 or 2 seeds.

Seeds brown or black, triangular, 3-4 mm long, wrinkled and pitted.

(www.dpti.sa.gov.au)



After flowering, before drying during summer





