

## IN BRIEF

### BALGA FLOWERING

In last years' *Western Wildlife* there were several articles about the growth rate of balga and at what age it first flowers. Below is an early record.

In 1924 The Australian Forestry Journal Vol 7, p 25 published a brief note about *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, in particular about a balga growing in a garden in Cottesloe. Planted 22 years previously, its trunk had reached a height of 79 cm and a diameter of 35 cm. This plant was not artificially watered 'for the first few years of its life'. Later on, when the house was connected to the water service, it received water with the rest of the garden.

The author also several times burnt the dry leaves, the last time being 'last season'. In 1923 the plant first flowered, producing a flower stalk 3.7m long.

The article has a photograph of this balga, with a man standing nearby.

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