

## Plant of the Month — February 2015

### *Schoenolaena juncea* Bunge



*Schoenolaena juncea* is an erect sedge-like perennial herb to 1 m high. The large white involucre bracts subtending the inflorescence appear similar to those in genus [Xanthosia](#) (particularly the [Southern Cross](#) plant). It can be found flowering in seasonal swamps and wetlands in summer from Dandaragan north of Perth through the south-west to east of Albany.

Described by Russian botanist Alexander Bunge in 1845, the species name is derived from the Latin word *junceus* (made of rushes or rush-like). *Schoenolaena* is a part of the [Apiaceae or Carrot family](#) and is a monotypic genus (consisting of only one species). The image here shows the flowers in transition from male to female phase. There is one remaining anther on a flower to the left of the image. Also, there are more flowers developing behind the open inflorescence.

Photo: R. Davis

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