

Beach Spinifex

Spinifex sericeus



Adaptation to environment

- Narrow leaves curled to protect inner surface with stomata; outer surface hairy as shield against wind, sand & salt
- Long, tough stems & roots help bind loose sand
- Long, fast-growing stems help plants quickly invade new areas
- Large seed heads tumbled along beaches by wind & dispersed by ocean currents.



Where do I live? Frontal Dunes

What eats me?

- Cicada nymphs suck sap from roots
- Sand scarab beetle larvae eat roots.

- Tough grass
- Blades 10 - 40 cm with stems several metres long
- Most common species on exposed beaches & frontal dunes
- Aboriginal people used stems to make dilly bags & sieves; seed head was a children's toy.