

**Genus:** *Phormium*  
**Species:** *tenax*  
**Cultivar:**  
**Family:** Agavaceae

**Common Name:** New Zealand Flax

**Origin:** New Zealand



Stanford

**Kind of Plant:** Perennial

**Seasonal Habit:** Evergreen

**Growth Habit:** Upright, rigid

**Height:** 4 to 8 ft, some lower.

**Width:** Equal to height

**Light Needs:** Sun-Part Sun

**Water Needs:** Low-Medium

**Special Identifying Features**

**Leaves:** Swordlike, 2" wide, 12-60" long, from base of plant

**Bark/Twig:**

**Flowers:** Dull red or reddish orange on upright inflorescence often twice the height of plant.

**Fruit:**

**Disease(s):** Crown rot

(Refer to Disease and Pest Control chart for treatments.)

**Pest(s):**

**Special Points:**

Sturdy and fast growing, takes almost any soil, good in containers, harmed by temperatures below 20 degrees F (-7 degrees C). Good garden focal point. Many variegated selections, different foliage colors and sizes are available.

**Campus Location:**

1) New Guinea Garden, 2) Stanford Press Building, 3) Main Quad South side and NW corner., 4) Math Corner courtyard, 5) Cummings Art, 6) 340 Bonair - 'Bronze Baby', 7) Waterwise Demonstration Garden in Faculty/Staff housing - 'Bronze Baby'