Genus: *Phormium*
Species: *tenax*
*Common Name:* New Zealand Flax

*Origin:* New Zealand

**Kind of Plant:** Perennial

**Growth Habit:** Upright, rigid

**Light Needs:** Sun-Part Sun

**Seasonal Habit:** Evergreen

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

**Width:** Equal to height

**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

**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'