

Dune Plant Seed Collection Guide 2022- 2023

Golden Sedge

Ficinia spiralis

Pingao



Pingao seed can be collected from December to the middle of January, **2-4-week period only**.

The ripening period varies, depending how sheltered the sites are and climatic influences such as rainfall and heat.

East Coast beaches are usually ready the 2nd week of December through to the 1st week of January.

West Coast beaches are usually ready the last week of December through to the 3rd week of January.

The seeds are ready when the heads are golden brown, and you run your hand down the spike dislodging the seed easily, immature seed is greenish in colour and difficult to remove.



Flowers



Seed Head

Use scissors, secateurs or a sharp knife to remove seed heads. Do not remove all seed heads, leave at least half on the plant. The general rule of thumb is **20 seed heads equals 500 plants**.

Place seed heads in a paper bag (not plastic as it sweats) and send to us directly, include information like:

- Location of plants, site ecological region if known
- Date
- Collectors name and contact number
- Who you are collecting for e.g. Council, Coastcare Group or any other organisation

For more information on collection go to the Dune Restoration Trust website: www.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz

There are plenty of photos to help with identification and collection.

Include the information on the paper sacks and send the sacks to us:

Coastlands Plant Nursery Ltd, 65 Keepa Road, R.D.1, Whakatane 3191 Phone 07 307 0269 or 0274 715 041

Spinifex

Spinifex sericeus

Kowhangatara



Spinifex seed can be collected mid-January to mid-February (**3–4-week period only**)

East Coast beaches are usually ready the 1st week of January to the end of January.

West Coast beaches are usually ready the 2nd week of January to 1st week of February.

When the seed is ready it detaches from the parent plant or can be lifted from the plant with ease. The large heads do this **first** and hold the best most viable seed.

Also collecting the female seed heads that are within 10 metres of male plants provides better quality seed.

Be careful not to collect male seed and seed that has been affected by Spinifex smut, this looks like deformed seed.

Spinifex seed collected with smut found in the bag will not be sorted at the nursery and will be destroyed.

Pick the seeds directly from the plants when they are ready, they will come off freely. As a guide we require one paper sack, 40-60L sack, to make 500-1000 plants. A full sack holds 150 to 200 seed heads.

Below are two photos of spinifex smut and one of the male flowers - DO NOT collect these.



Smut



Smut



Male Flower Heads



Include the information on the paper sacks, same as the Pingao, and send the paper sacks to us:

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