

## Burdett's Banksia *Banksia burdettii*



### Description

This medium shrub grows to a height of 4 m and a width of 2 m. It flowers in summer and autumn, providing nectar-loving birds with a source of food during the hot summer months.

### Flowers

The two-toned orange and cream, cone-shaped flower spikes are spectacular against the blue summer sky. They are up to 120 mm in length and 100 mm in diameter and are ideal as a cut flower.

### Growing conditions

This Banksia is a proven performer in all soil types providing there is good drainage. It is best planted in autumn in a sunny position.

### Watering

Once established, this plant is very hardy and in some situations needs no supplementary summer watering.

### Pruning

Banksias in general respond well to pruning. Formative pruning at an early age is advised to create a dense multi-branched shrub. After flowering it is advisable to remove spent flower spikes in order to stimulate the next season's floral display. Cutting the flowers for vase use is also a good way to prune, followed by a light overall pruning when flowering is finished.

### Fertiliser

Apply slow release native blend 8–9 month fertiliser at planting and annually as required in spring.

### Pests and diseases

This plant is vulnerable to borers within the major stems and small growing tips. Burdett's Banksia is also susceptible to dieback (the soil-borne fungus, *Phytophthora cinnamomi*) and occasionally to mealybugs.

### Miscellaneous

This shrub is very shallow-rooted and care must be taken to protect the roots from any interference. Plants can last in the garden for 5 to 10 years. After this period, or when the plant begins to lose vigour and produce few flowers, removal and replacement is recommended.



### Further Information

Gardening Advisory Service, a free service provided by Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners.  
Phone: (08) 9480 3672 or Email: [garden.advice@bgpa.wa.gov.au](mailto:garden.advice@bgpa.wa.gov.au).

Pest and Diseases Information Service, Department of Agriculture and Food.  
Freecall 1800 084 881 Email: [info@agric.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@agric.wa.gov.au) or visit [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au).