

Bracted Grevillea *Grevillea bracteosa*



Description

Grevillea bracteosa is a hardy, medium shrub growing to some 2 m tall and has an open habit. Its grey-green narrow leaves are up to 8 cm long and the flowers, which are borne on the ends of stems, are shielded by bracts (leaf-like structures) until they open.

Flowers

This grevillea species flowers for much of the year with the best display of the clustered pink or rarely white flowers from August to October. The nectar-rich flowers will attract honeyeaters to the garden.

Growing conditions

Although this shrub grows naturally on gravelly loam it adapts well to a wide range of acid-to-neutral, free-draining soils. It is best planted in a sunny position in the autumn or winter months and once established is tolerant of drought conditions and light frost.

Watering

Water well at planting time and monitor soil moisture until the next winter. Give a deep watering twice a week during the first summer and autumn. Thereafter, it should not be necessary to give extra water unless there is a prolonged dry spell. Water only at roots, not overhead.

Pruning

Light tip pruning during establishment will help develop good form. Prune lightly after flowering to maintain a compact form and to promote new growth.

Fertiliser

Apply slow-release, native-blend fertiliser at time of planting and annually as required in the spring months.

Pests and diseases

Grevilleas in general may be susceptible to 'dieback' (the soil-borne disease caused by the organism *Phytophthora cinnamomi*). The best means of minimising the possibility of infection is to source plants from registered suppliers and to plant in free-draining soil.



Miscellaneous

Grevillea bracteosa, threatened in the wild, is highly recommended as an open-habit specimen shrub within your garden.

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

Pest and Diseases Information Service, Department of Agriculture and Food. Freecall 1800 084 881
Email: info@agric.wa.gov.au or visit www.agric.wa.gov.au.