

Tangled Grevillea *Grevillea flexuosa*



Description

In cultivation this showy grevillea grows rapidly to 1.5–2.0 m in height and 1.5 m in width. It is an open shrub with attractive foliage that can grow in crowded conditions as a feature plant among other shrubs and is also a great addition to a semi-shaded area in a garden. Its survival is threatened in the wild.

Flowers

Flowering in winter and early spring the lemon or creamy-white cylindrical inflorescences are perfumed and can highlight a semi-shaded area. They may attract butterflies, insects and nectar-feeding birds.

Growing conditions

Grevillea flexuosa needs full or partial sunlight and good drainage. It is best planted in autumn and winter months in sand over granite, sandy loams or gravelly soil. This plant is frost tolerant.

Watering

Establish the plant by watering well at the base initially and ensuring that until established it does not dry out, after which it should not require watering except in very prolonged dry summer spells. Water only at roots, not overhead. Open mulch will help to conserve moisture.

Pruning

Regular tip pruning will help make the shrub more compact as it has a naturally open and spreading habit.

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

In botany the term *flexuosa* is applied to a stem which is zigzag, changing directions at the nodes. *Grevillea flexuosa*, threatened in its natural habitat, is also suitable for growing in pots.



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.