

## Spreading Grevillea *Grevillea humifusa*



### Description

*Grevillea humifusa* is threatened in the wild. It is a prostrate shrub that has a low, spreading habit with trailing stems to 3 m. Its silver-grey dense foliage is very attractive and offsets the flowers when in bloom. A highly versatile plant and well worth considering for home gardens of mediterranean, cottage, coastal and bush designs.

### Flowers

In a long-flowering period through winter/spring, bright red flowers in profusion attract small nectar-seeking birds.

### Growing conditions

This species can adapt to most well-draining soils. It will grow in gravelly soil, loam, deep sand and is lime tolerant. In its natural habitat it grows amongst medium or low trees or tall shrubs. *Grevillea humifusa* will grow in dry areas and in full sun and partial shade. It is frost-tolerant.

### Watering

Establish the plant by watering well 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

The natural habit of this plant is spreading but it can be encouraged to be more compact by regular light pruning.

### 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

The trailing habit of *Grevillea humifusa* makes it a suitable plant for rockeries and 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](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).