

Sparse Flowered Grevillea *Grevillea sparsiflora*



Description

This grevillea is a native of the south-east coast of Western Australia, growing on sand dunes or in woodland. It is a low shrub, 50 cm to 1 m in height and up to 1 m in width with dense greyish-green foliage. The leaves appear narrower than they actually are because the edges of each leaf are folded under.

Flowers

Flowers appear from winter to spring. They are in shades of pink through to orange-red, somewhat hidden within the foliage but making an excellent contrast to it.

Growing conditions

G. sparsiflora requires a free-draining alkaline to neutral soil in full sun. It should tolerate some frosts and extended dry spells once established in the garden.

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, when water can be applied sparingly at the roots. Open mulch helps to conserve moisture during dry periods.

Pruning

The only pruning necessary for this plant would be in the interests of tidiness as it is naturally compact.

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

Birds find the flowers of this grevillea very attractive and the dense foliage affords protection as they forage.

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