

Hibbertia grossulariifolia



Description

Hibbertia grossulariifolia is a prostrate shrub from the southern tip of Western Australia. Its red, hairy stems spread to more than one metre across and the dark, glossy green, deeply-lobed leaves are 25–30 mm in diameter. It makes an excellent ground cover and will spill attractively over retaining walls.

Flowers

Five-petalled golden flowers, up to 30 mm in diameter, occur mainly from August to December. Individual flowers are short-lived but new flowers are constantly produced over a long period. They form a bright contrast to the deep-green foliage.

Growing conditions

This species grows naturally on sand or loam, in forest areas, coastal dunes and swamp edges, but prefers a well-drained soil. It thrives in full sun and is also successful in shade. It will tolerate moderate frost.

Watering

Water in well at time of planting and monitor its water needs carefully for the first winter and summer. After this, ensure it has moisture during extended dry periods.

Pruning

Trim as required after flowering to maintain a dense ground cover.

Fertiliser

Apply a slow-release native plant fertiliser when planting and annually as required in the spring months.

Pests and diseases

In the home garden, this species is rarely susceptible to pests or diseases.

Miscellaneous information

This plant was first described by the English botanist Richard Salisbury in 1807. He placed it in the *Burtonia* genus but subsequently reclassified it as *Hibbertia grossulariifolia*: *Hibbertia* in honour of George Hibbert, a patron of botany, and *grossulariifolia* for its gooseberry like leaves.



Further Information

Gardening Advisory Service, a free service provided by Kings Park Volunteer Master Gardeners. Phone: 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.