

WHITE FLOWERING WILLOW BOTTLEBRUSH

CALLISTEMON SALIGNUS



The callistemon or bottlebrush is a small to medium evergreen shrub with green lance shaped leaves and the characteristic brush-like flowers. These attractive plants produce spikes of colorful flowers, of which the most conspicuous parts are the tufts of long stamens. These flower spikes resemble bottlebrushes, hence the common name. Native to the Australian mainland and Tasmania, bottlebrush flower prolifically and are easy to grow and once established require very little ongoing attention. They are a delightful plant much favoured by nectar seeking bird life. They will grow in almost any climate and almost any soil will suit. They will tolerate poor drainage. Plant in full sun or shade, although full sun will promote more freely.



Callistemon salignus is a small tree to a maximum of 10 metres with pendulous branches and papery peeling bark. The flower spikes are creamy-white to a light yellow, sometimes, although rarely, pink, appearing in the spring and at times again in the autumn. An attractive feature of the species is the new foliage which has a beautiful reddish tinge. It is moderately drought and frost tolerant - down to about -5°C and has the advantage of accepting wet or dry soils. One of the great advantages of this species is that it thrives in a high light indoor environment. Propagation is easy from seed.

