



A GOLD ANTHERED BOTTLEBRUSH - ATTRACTIVE, MODERATELY FROST HARDY AND ADAPTABLE

GENUS CALLISTEMON POLANDII

The Polandii bottlebrush is one of the many Australian callistemon, but has certain traits that set it aside from the others. This callistemon is a medium to tall shrub varying considerably in size from 1.5 to 5 metres in height and 1 to 3 metres across. The leaves on this species are probably the largest of all the callistemons, 8 to 15 centimetres long and 2 to 4 centimetres wide. The large red flower spikes are up to 10 cm long and 5 cm across and are distinguished by the yellow gold anthers.

This is an outstanding species that is very attractive to pollinating birds, moderately frost hardy and thrives in wet or dry conditions in a range of soils. Originating in rich soil on exposed mountain slopes in coastal mid-Queensland this species has proved to be adaptable and reasonably frost-tolerant, suffering some tip burn in heavy Canberra frost. The large flowers and leaves and the erect nature produce a dramatic effect and make it clearly distinguishable from other bottlebrush from its foliage and blooms. It flowers in late winter in the north and in spring further south. It is easy to propagate from seed and is a friendly easily managed plant.