



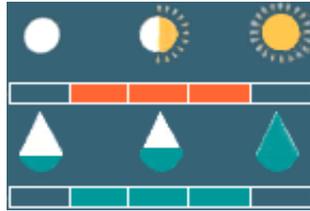
## Bottlebrush

*Callistemon subulatus*



Family: Myrtaceae

Shrub or small tree 1 - 2 m with red flowers



**Distribution:** Native to the south of New South Wales and Victoria.

**Description:** Grows mostly to 1 m and has a spreading habit. Dark crimson flower spikes are produced in summer and occasionally throughout the year, followed by the seed pods.

**Propagation:** Bottlebrushes are easily grown from seed. The unopened pods should be collected and stored in a warm place in a paper bag until the fine seeds are released. The seed should be sown into a freely draining seed-raising mix during spring and summer.

**Habitat:** Grows along the banks of watercourses of coastal and tableland districts. Grows in heavy or light soils with ample moisture. Frost hardy and fast-growing.

**Uses:** Useful as a screen plant, and in erosion control. Flower spikes are very rich in nectar and attract many birds.