

Proteaceae
Banksia spinulosa
var collina
 Hill/Hairpin Banksia

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ETYMOLOGY

(BANK-see-a) After Joseph Banks who travelled with Captain Cook to Australia 1770; The species spinulosa (SPIN-u-lo-sah) from Latin words spina = thorn, + osus = abounding in; with small spines; The variety collina (col-LY-nus) from latin pertaining to hills; referring to hillside habitat of species.

LIFEFORM

Tree >1 m x 2 m Spread

STATUS

Occurs east coast of Australia, Found in Qld and NSW, Southern geographical limit Hawkesbury River NSW

OCCURS

Glasshouse Mtns Q, Morisset, Tuggerah, Somersby NSW, Otway NP Vic

HABITAT

Heath, Dry sclerophyll forest, woodland

LEAVES

Alternate, 2-12 x 1 cm, serrated margins, notch at end, base wedge-shaped white underneath held upright.

FLOWERS

Cylindrical, 5-20 cm, tightly packed spikes, brown-orange, bottlebrush-shape; Flowers have a pleasant honey scent; **Flowering times** April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept

FRUIT

Cones, 1-2.4 cm woody follicles up to 100, very crowded, as canopy-stored seedbank; winged seeds released following fire. **Fruiting times** May, June, July, Aug

BARK

Smooth to tessellated, grey-brown bark; lignotuber present.

TRUNK or STEM

Multi-stemmed shrub branchlets tomentose to hirsute; Stem angular trailing along the ground or growing erect after a semi-horizontal beginning

ETHNOBOTANY

Powerline friendly; popular garden plant widely sold in nurseries Ornamental potential usage in landscaping; Useful for fence screen; Hedge; Windbreak; Container Plant; Specimen; Flowers attract *Apis mellifera* (honeybee) used for honey production. Extract seed from fruit in oven or soak cones in water then dry rapidly, valves containing seed should open. Flower spike is used in floral art.

TOLERANCE:

Full sun, Drought tolerant, Smog Tolerant; Tolerant of *Phytophthora cinnamomi*;

WILDLIFE:

Flowers visited by native bees; Important source of nectar for Honeyeaters, Grey-headed Flying-fox, birds and insects, Sugar Glider, Eastern Pygmy Possum (fl), Brown Antechinus *Homalictus urbanus*

NATIVE BEES

INSECTS

Cyrioides imperialis Banksia Jewel Beetle,

BIRD

Noisy Friarbird, Brown/Lewins, Blue-faced/Yellow-faced/New Holland/White-naped/White-eared/White-cheeked Honeyeater, Scarlet Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill (fl) Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo (flowers & fruit), Superb Fairy-wren (insects), Crimson Rosella, Rainbow Lorikeets

INDIGENOUS USES

Nectar from flowers sucked or soaked in water (make into a syrup) to treat for sore throats and colds.