

Proteaceae

Banksia oblongifolia

dwarf banksia

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ETYMOLOGY

(BANK-see-a) After Joseph Banks who travelled with Captain Cook to Australia 1770; The species oblongifolia (ob-lon-gee-FO-lee-ah) oblong leaves;

LIFEFORM

Shrub 50cm-4m x 1-4m Spread

STATUS

Northern Limit Bundaberg to Port Jackson NSW Southern Limit;

OCCURS

Bundaberg Qld, Ulladulla, Port Jackson NSW

QLD DISTRICTS

Darling Downs, Leichhardt, Moreton, Port Curtis, Wide Bay

HABITAT

Coastal Heath, Swamps, Woodland, Shrubland

LEAVES

Alternate, 5-11 x 1.5-2 cm, oblong leathery, margins slightly recurved, 1-2 mm serrate edge; densely rusty-tomentose; underside tomentose, with nerves pits woolly on 2-5 mm stalks; Red to coppery brown new growth on foliage;

FLOWERS

Spikes, 15 cm, cylindrical, bottlebrush-shaped long slender, creamy gold to pure white; Old flowers soon falling; Bud, mauve or aqua highlights before opening to a dull yellow;

Flowering times March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct

FRUIT

Cones, 10-18 x 3-7 mm, narrowly elliptic, follicles >80, valves semi-circular, smooth, velvety, glabrescent. Seed obovate, 12-18 mm; seed body oblong to semi-elliptic, smooth or slightly rugose containing winged seeds;

Fruiting times Sept, Oct, March, April, May

BARK

Smooth, reddish-brown with small lenticels; lignotuber;

STEM

Erect multi-stemmed shrub; Branchlets densely rusty red to dark grey hairy; Young foliage copper colour

ETHNOBOTANY

Powerline friendly; Ornamental potential usage in landscaping; Fungi recovered from leaves: *Asterina systema-solare*, *Episphaerella banksiae*, *Lincostromea banksiae* (Summerell B.)

TOLERANCE

Full Sun; Extremely adaptable and hardy plant that thrives in tough conditions;

WILDLIFE

Fauna habitat; Flowers food plant for flying-fox, nectar eating birds and native bees; Sugar Gliders are likely important pollinators of many Banksia

NATIVE BEES

Lasioglossum (*Homalictus*) *urbanus*

BIRD

New Holland Honeyeater, Lewin's Honeyeater, Brown Honeyeater, Tawny Crowned/White-Plumed, Yellow-faced/White-cheeked Honeyeater, Little Wattlebird, Eastern Spinebill, Little/Noisy Friarbird (fl) Noisy Miner fed on nectar (Kubiak P.)

BUTTERFLY

Hypochrysops ignitus fiery jewel

INDIGENOUS USES

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

ID FEATURE

Leaves leathery commonly all finely toothed below white + Flowers yellow bottlebrushes
Follicles erect, rusty brown; valves semicircular;