

Weeping Bottlebrush



K Elliot



S Robins



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FAMILY: Myrtaceae

HABIT: A small tree, usually with a weeping habit and a short, rough, dark grey trunk.

LEAVES: Alternate, elliptic, narrow, from around 2-9 cm long, with conspicuous oil dots and usually bronze coloured and covered with silky hairs when young.

FLOWER/FRUIT: Small, red flowers are borne in large, dense spikes, up to 12cm long, with the stamens being the showy part of the flowers.

Fruits are small, cup-shaped, woody capsules which disperse numerous fine seeds.

PROPAGATION: Capsules are ripe when they turn brown. Place seeds in a paper bag in a warm spot and viable seed should be released within 7 days. Seeds can then be distributed into seed raising mix using a shaker. Water using bog method.

Grow by cuttings to maintain selective form/s.

LOCAL HABITAT: Riparian

DISTRIBUTION: Widespread throughout Queensland and New South Wales.

GENERAL: A very useful ornamental tree. Numerous forms have been selected for cultivation. Will do well in poorly drained soils. Likes a fairly sunny position in the garden.

Attracts honey and insect-eating birds.

REFERENCES: Alcock & Champion 1989 *One Hundred and One Trees of Mackay*.