

## Planting and Growing your ornamental natives

Australian native plants can be very rewarding to grow in your garden. They flower at varying times throughout the year and you will always have something in flower. Many Aussie natives flower in the winter months when most exotic plants are dormant, making them a complimentary range of plants to have in your garden. By growing Aussie natives you will also be rewarded with the presence of birdlife taking advantage of the food source and nesting opportunities you have provided for them.

There are a few simple steps to follow to successfully grow most Aussie native plants:

- If you are planting into heavy soil, raise the planting area above the ground level so that your plant benefits from better drainage.
- Add good quality (well composted) organic matter to the soil when back-filling around the plant. We recommend Native Planting Mix.
- Keep your new plants well watered. Check the moisture in the soil around the root zone and be guided by that.
- Feed your plants once you see new growth appearing after planting. Feed ONLY with Native Plant Food. We recommend Organic Extra or Kickalong for Natives. Feed your native plants twice per year for optimum growth and flowering.
- Prune your plants after they flower to keep them to the shape you want. A light prune is beneficial to most native plants.

There are a few don'ts as well.

- Don't add animal manure or fertiliser into the planting hole (Plant pills are fine if you follow the instructions.)
- Don't fertilise your garden with General Purpose fertiliser – use only NATIVE Plant Food.

If in doubt, please give us a call and we'll do our best to help you. Enjoy.

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