

Spyridium globulosum

(Labill.) Benth.

BASKET BUSH

Flowering period: June–November.

Description: Robust, fast-growing and erect, low-growing and heath-like to many-branched shrub, 0.6–3 m high. Leaves rounded, soft, often inrolled when drought-stressed, 15–50 mm long, 10–25 mm wide, green above, white beneath with a fine felt of white hairs. Flowers in very densely woolly terminal to sub-terminal heads with each flower small, up to 2 mm across. Seeds orange-brown, to 0.5 mm across, with an orange oily deposit on the outer surface thought to be involved in the regulation of seed dormancy or as an anti-predation mechanism.

Pollination: Open pollinated by a variety of smaller insects.

Distribution: Widespread and common on secondary or sheltered primary dunes or limestone areas and off-shore islands from Geraldton to Israelite Bay. Will cope with wind and some salt exposure; however, more commonly found in protected areas or growing in mixed heathland communities.

Propagation: From seeds collected in December to January. Soak seeds in boiling water and allow to cool. Sow in seed trays and prick out when 1 cm tall. Plant out into restoration sites when 10–12 cm tall. This species has inconsistent growth patterns between seedlings resulting in considerable variation in seedling size and may require culling of under-performing plants.

Uses in restoration: An important dune stabilising species for inter-planting with *Olearia axillaris*, *Scaevola crassifolia* and *Lepidosperma gladiatum*. Requires protection from high wind exposure during establishment; however, can be fast-growing.

Notes: Easily grown and reliable species with an attractive white underside to the leaves. Can be effectively pruned to shape and will hedge well in the home garden. Plant in full sun for best effect.



Habit



Flowers



Fruit



Distribution