

Calothamnus quadrifidus ONE-SIDED BOTTLEBRUSH

R.Br.

Flowering period: June–December.

Description: Erect sprawling to compact shrub, 0.8–2 m high with divaricating branches often to ground level. Leaves needle-like, 2–5 cm long, slightly hairy. Flowers red, rarely yellow, produced in elongated clusters usually on one side of stems that are 1–2 years old. Fruit globular, greyish and produced in clusters or files along the stem. Seeds take up to one year to mature with stems holding cohorts of fruit for a number of years. Capsules produce abundant seed interspersed with brown, sterile ovulode material.

Pollination: The red, claw-like flowers produce abundant nectar, highly sought out by a variety of nectar-seeking birds including singing, brown and white-cheeked honeyeaters.

Distribution: Widespread from Shark Bay to Israelite Bay and inland to the goldfields. The species has become naturalised in some bushland areas following planting programs. Tolerant of a wide variety of soils and positions, from limestone outcrops as well as secondary dunes. Plants remain low growing in exposed sites.

Propagation: Readily grown from seed sown into seedling mix in autumn and kept moist. Seedlings appear after 3–4 weeks and are be pricked-out into potting mix. Plant into restoration sites in winter. Plants require some protection from high winds.

Uses in restoration: Useful for improving biodiversity values of secondary dunes due to the bird attracting nature of the species; however, plants need some protection from high winds.

Notes: An easily grown species that is tolerant of a wide variety of soil types and conditions, with plants often producing abundant quantities of red flowers making the species highly attractive in restoration programs.



Habit



Flowers



Habit



Distribution