



Banksia Coccinea



Banksia Baxteri



Possum Banksia



Banksia Speciosa

Banksia

Botanical names: Many species are used, including: *Banksia coccinea* (Red), *B. prionotes* (yellow), *B. speciosa* (lime), *B. menziesii* (yellow-scarlet), *B. baxteri* (pale green), *B. ashbeyi* (yellow-orange), *B. hookeriana* (cream-yellow).

Family: Proteaceae.

Common name: Scarlet banksia, golden banksia, rickrack banksia, red banksia, Ashby's banksia, Hooker's banksia.

Country of Origin: Australia

Available: Availability varies between species. Most are available late winter to early summer.

Stem Length: 30 to 80 cm

There are about 80 species of banksia, which is a member of the Protea family, with perhaps as many as 20 species are used as cut flowers in Australia. The actual number is not sure as in the past many were bush picked and this still continues to a small extent today. As a result some short-stemmed species with distinctive flowers that are not commercially grown can appear on the market during spring. Banksias have distinctive cone-shaped inflorescences that are made up of hundreds of tiny flowers that open from the base, giving them a fluffy appearance.

Most banksia flowers are yellow, but they are also found in red (eg *B. coccinea*), green (*B. baxteri*), and creamy orange (*B. hookeriana*). They are not scented. Banksias are very popular cut flowers in Australia and overseas, due to their distinctive shape and long vase life. Many can also be dried successfully. Banksia cones are also used in floristry in Australia because of their unusual shape and texture – they remind many Australians of the bad Banksia Men from the much-loved

'Snugglepot and Cuddlepie' children's stories published by May Gibbs last century.

Banksias are grown outside in field plantations, bush picking is now actively discouraged. Most are grown in WA, SA, QLD and NSW.

When Buying Look for:

- Inflorescences with the bottom third of flowers open and fluffy;
- Clear colour, grey flowers are old;
- Avoid wet flowers, especially in the orange-coloured forms, as wet flowers can develop black streaks.

Flower Care

1. Keep cool whenever possible.
2. Strip leaves from the lower half of each stem.
3. Recut at least 2cm off each stem and place in cold water immediately.
4. Never bash or split stems.
5. A preservative is recommended, but not essential.
6. Replace vase water with fresh preservative every day as Banksias are thirsty flowers.
7. Never mist these flowers as this could cause black marks to appear.

Interesting Facts and Myths

Banksia was named after Joseph Banks, who first collected the plant in Australia during Cook's voyage of 1770. Banks collected so many plants that 110 new genera and 1300 new species were later named. Some of Banks' original specimens, including the Banksias are included in the National Herbarium, part of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne ([link](#)). While these precious specimens are not on public display, the Herbarium does occasionally display them during open days.

MOTHER'S DAY POINT OF SALE

Available for collection from Thursday, 26 April, 5am-8am at the NFC Customer Service Desk. This year's kit will comprise of one life-size standee (so make sure you leave some room in your vehicle) and a polo t-shirt. Additional t-shirts available for \$10ea.

Limited number of kits, so first in, first served. One kit per shop.



THIS WEEK'S PRICES

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
ACONITUM (MONK'S HOOD)	5	\$9.00 TO \$10.00
AGAPANTHUS	7	\$3.50
AGERATUM	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ALSTROEMERIA	SML - 7, LGE - 10	\$3.50 TO \$6.00
AMARANTHUS	10	\$6.00 TO \$8.50
ANEMONE	10	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
ANTHURIUM	PER STEM	\$4.50
ARABS EYES	5	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
ASTERS		\$2.00 TO \$2.50
ASTERS (GLASSHOUSE)	4-7	\$4.50
BANKSIA - BAXTERI	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.50
BANKSIA - COCCINEA	5	\$5.00
BANKSIA - HOOKERIANA	PER STEM	\$1.60
BANKSIA - MENZIESII	PER STEM	\$1.40 TO \$1.80
BANKSIA - PLAGEOCARPA	PER STEM	\$2.50
BANKSIA - SPECIOSA	PER STEM	\$1.20 TO \$2.00
BELLADONNA LILY	5	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
BOUVARDIA		\$4.00 TO \$7.00
BRUNIA	5	\$4.00 TO \$15.00
CALLA LILY	5	\$7.50 TO \$15.00
CARNATION - MICRO	10	\$2.00 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$3.00
CARNATION - SPRAY		\$2.50 TO \$5.50
CARNATION - CHINESINI	10-15	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CARNATION - FIELD		\$1.50 TO \$2.50
CARNATION - SIM		\$3.00 TO \$4.00
CELOSIA - COCKSCOMB	5	\$4.00 TO \$7.00
CELOSIA - PLUME	5	\$5.00
CHRYSANTHEMUM - FIELD		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
CHRYSANTHEMUM - GLASSHOUSE	5-7	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
COSMOS		\$2.00
DAHLIA	5	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
DAHLIA - POM POM		\$2.00
DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
DELPHINIUM - GIANT	5	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
DELPHINIUM - BUTTERFLY	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.50
EASTER DAISY		\$2.50 TO \$3.50
EREMURUS	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
ERICA	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY)		\$6.50 TO \$7.50
FLANNEL FLOWER	5	\$5.00
FREESIA	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
GERBERA	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
GERBERA - MINI	10	\$3.50 TO \$5.50
GLADIOLI	10	\$6.00 TO \$11.00
GLORIOSA LILY	3	\$5.00 TO \$15.00
GOLDEN ROD	10	\$2.50 TO \$4.00
GREVILLEA	5	\$3.50
GYPSOPHILA - STANDARD		\$3.00 TO \$5.00
GYPSY		\$3.00
HELICONIA	5	\$6.00
HELICONIA CLAW	PER STEM	\$4.00 TO \$7.50
HELICONIA SEXY	PER STEM	\$7.50 TO \$10.00
HYACINTH		\$5.00 TO \$7.00
HYDRANGEA	5	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
IRIS	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
KANGAROO PAW -BLACK		\$8.00
KANGAROO PAW - STANDARD	10	\$5.50
LAVENDER		\$3.50
LEUCADENDRON	5	\$2.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - DISCOLOUR	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCADENDRON - GALAPINI	5	\$4.50
LEUCADENDRON - SILVAN RED	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCODENDRON - SILVER TREE		\$3.00
LEUCOSPERMUM - REFLEXUM	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
LEUCOSPERMUM - TANGO	5	\$6.00
LIATRIS	10	\$3.50 TO \$7.00
LILY - ASIATIC	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.50
LILY - LONGIFLORUM	5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - ORIENTAL	4-5	\$5.00 TO \$10.00
LILY - LA	5	\$3.00 TO \$6.00
LIMONIUM - EMILE	10	\$3.50 TO \$4.50
LIMONIUM - MISTY	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
LIMONIUM - STATICE	10	\$2.00 TO \$2.50
LISIANTHUS	7-10	\$3.50 TO \$7.50
LOPHOSTEMON	5	\$4.50
LOTUS PODS		\$3.00
NERINES	5	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ORCHID - CYMBIDIUM	PER STEM	\$13.00 TO \$17.00

NAME	STEMS PER BUNCH	PRICE RANGE
ORCHID - SINGAPORE	5	\$4.00 TO \$8.00
ORCHID - SLIPPER	PER BLOOM	\$6.50
ORCHID - TIGER	5	\$11.50
PROTEA - KING	PER STEM	\$2.00 TO \$3.00
PROTEA - PENCIL	5	\$3.50
PROTEA - PINK ICE		\$2.50 TO \$6.50
ROSE - 30CM	10	\$3.00 TO \$4.00
ROSE - 40CM	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
ROSE - 50CM	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
ROSE - 60CM	10	\$6.00 TO \$7.00
ROSE - 70CM+	10	\$7.00 TO \$8.00
ROSE - MINI	10	\$4.50 TO \$6.50
SAFFLOWER (CARTHAMUS)	10	\$6.00
SEDUM	10	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SNAPDRAGON	10	\$2.50 TO \$3.50
SOLIDASTER	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
STEPHANOTIS	BOX OF 20 HEADS	\$25.00
STRAWBERRY FIELDS (GOMPHRENA)		\$2.50 TO \$4.00
STRELITZIA - BIRD OF PARADISE	5	\$7.00 TO \$10.00
SUNFLOWERS	5	\$2.50 TO \$4.00
SWEET WILLIAM		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
TUBEROSE	5	\$3.50 TO \$6.00
TULIPS	10	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
WATER LILIES	5-7	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
FOLIAGE		
ACACIA APHYLLA		\$5.50 TO \$6.50
BANANA LEAF	20	\$20.00
BIXIA	5	\$7.50
BLACKBERRY FOLIAGE	10	\$4.50
BOTTLEBRUSH (SPARSA)	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
BULLRUSHES	4	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
BUXUS	7	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
CAMELLIA		\$4.50 TO \$5.00
CHESTNUT FOLIAGE	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
CLETHRA		\$5.50
COLOURED STICKS	6	\$25.00
CORDYLINE	10	\$4.50 TO \$5.00
CROTON	10	\$3.00 TO \$3.50
CYPRUS	10	\$2.50
EMU BUSH		\$3.00 TO \$5.00
FAN PALM	10	\$5.00
FILICA		\$4.00
FLAX		\$3.50 TO \$7.50
GARRYA	3	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
GERBERA FOLIAGE		\$3.00
GINGER FOLIAGE		\$5.00
GUM		\$2.50
HAPPY PLANT	10	\$6.00
HOLLY (GOLDEN)	5-6	\$5.00 TO \$6.00
HOSTA LEAVES		\$4.00
HYDRANGEA FOLIAGE	5-6	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
HYPERICUM BERRIES	10	\$5.00 TO \$8.00
IVY		\$3.00 TO \$4.50
JOEY FERN	10	\$4.00 TO \$5.00
KOALA FERN	10	\$4.50
LAUREL		\$4.50
LEATHER FERN		\$4.00 TO \$5.00
MAGNOLIA FOLIAGE	5	\$6.00 TO \$9.00
MAPLE		\$5.00
MELALEUCA	10	\$5.00
MING FERN		\$4.50
MOLUCCA BALM (IRISH BELLS)	5	\$4.50 TO \$5.50
MONSTERIA LEAVES		\$6.50 TO \$9.00
NANDINA		\$3.50
OAK		\$5.00
OKRA PODS	3	\$9.00
PAPYRUS	5	\$5.00 YO \$8.00
PEPPER CORN		\$4.50 TO \$5.50
PHILODENDRON - XANADU	5-6	\$4.00 TO \$6.00
PIMELLA		\$3.50 TO \$4.00
RED WILLOW	5	\$5.00
SILVER BUSH	5	\$3.00 TO \$5.00
SILVER TREE		\$3.00
SILVER SUEDE		\$5.00 TO \$6.00
SPEAR GRASS		\$2.00 TO \$3.00
TETRAGONA GUM NUTS	10	\$5.50 TO \$6.50
UMBRELLA BERRIES (LIPSTICK)	5	\$8.00
WINTER SWEET	5	\$7.50
WOODY PEAR	PER STEM	\$1.00

This newsletter is posted weekly on the Melbourne Markets website, www.melbournemarkets.com

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Prices quoted are per bunch and exclude GST. Bulk orders may receive lower prices depending on availability