



Waxflower

Botanical name: *Chamelaucium uncinatum*, *C. megalopetalum*, *C. ciliatum*.

Family: Myrtaceae

Common Names: Geraldton waxflower

Country of Origin: Australia

Available: Winter – early summer

Stem Length: 30 to 70 cm

With many flowers per branch, waxflowers each have 4 petals surrounding a central cup containing the anthers and a prominent style. This central cup is often brightly coloured (red or green) in contrast to the pastel colours of the petals. Flowers are noticeably waxy and the central cup can fill with nectar. Leaves are thin and needle-like. Many forms have a delicate lemony scent. Waxflower is very prone to fungal infection from *Botrytis*, which causes grey 'spider webs' and can eat away petals.

There are several types. The most common forms are from *C. uncinatum*: pink, white (cv 'Alba'), and purple (cv 'Purple Pride'). *C. megalopetalum* forms have larger flowers, while *C. ciliatum* are smaller. Early in the season it is commonly sold in bud as 'Bud Wax'.

Waxflower is very popular in Australia and since the 1980's has also gained in popularity in the northern hemisphere markets. It is native to Western Australia

where large field plantations were established in the 1980s and 90's. Most waxflower in Australia are grown in central to southern WA, SA and QLD.

Large plantations are now evident in Israel and the US.

Types: *C. uncinatum*, *C. megalopetalum*, *C. ciliatum*

When Buying Look for:

- Branches with third to half of flowers open;
- Open flowers should be free of brown marks and petal margins should not be eaten away as this signifies *Botrytis* infection;
- Shake branches and avoid those with leaf or flower drop as this is a sign of ethylene damage.

Flower Care

1. Keep cool at all times.
2. Strip leaves from the bottom half of each stem.



3. Recut at least 2 cm off each stem with sharp secateurs and place in water immediately.
4. Don't use a preservative – the sugar causes excess nectar production. Use clean water with a germicide.
5. Replace water every day.
6. Wax is very sensitive to ethylene. Keep them away from fruit, car exhausts and cigarette smoke.
7. Do not mist – this will spread fungal diseases from flower to flower.

Interesting Facts and Myths

The origin of the name *Chamelaucium* is uncertain. Some claim it is from the Greek 'chamai' meaning dwarf, and 'leucos' white. Others that it comes from the Latin for a bishop's mitre

These flowers are often called Geraldton Wax as they grow wild close to this town north of Perth, WA.

THIS WEEK'S PRICES

| NAME | STEMS PER BUNCH | PRICE RANGE |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| AGERATUM | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| ALSTROEMERIA | SML - 7, LGE - 10 | \$3.50 TO \$6.00 |
| AMARANTHUS | 10 | \$6.00 TO \$8.50 |
| ANTHURIUM | PER STEM | \$1.50 TO \$3.50 |
| ARABS EYES | 5 | \$3.50 TO \$4.50 |
| ARUM LILIES | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$6.50 |
| ASTERS | | \$2.00 TO \$2.50 |
| 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 - SPECIOSA | PER STEM | \$1.20 TO \$2.00 |
| BLUSHING BRIDE | 5 | \$3.00 TO \$6.00 |
| CALENDULA | 10 | \$2.00 |
| CALLA LILY | 10 | \$6.00 TO \$7.00 |
| CALLISTEMON (BOTTLEBRUSH) | PER STEM | 0.50 |
| CAMPANULA (CANTERBURY BELLS) | | \$7.00 |
| CARNATION HEADS | BOX | \$10.00 TO \$15.00 |
| CARNATION - MICRO | 10 | \$2.00 TO \$3.50 |
| CARNATION - FIELD | | \$1.50 TO \$3.00 |
| CARNATION - SPRAY | | \$3.50 TO \$4.00 |
| 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 - DISBUD | 5 | \$6.50 TO \$8.50 |
| CHRYSANTHEMUM - FIELD | | \$2.50 TO \$4.50 |
| CHRYSANTHEMUM - GLASSHOUSE | 5-7 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| DAFFODILS | 10 | \$1.10 TO \$1.50 |
| DAISY - SHASTA | | \$2.00 TO \$3.00 |
| DAPHNE | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| DELPHINIUM - GIANT | 5 | \$6.00 TO \$9.00 |
| DELPHINIUM - BUTTERFLY | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.50 |
| EASTER DAISY | | \$2.50 TO \$3.50 |
| ERICA | 10 | \$6.00 |
| ERICA - GREEN | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$5.50 |
| ERIOSTEMON | 5-7 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| ERLICHEER | | \$1.50 TO \$2.00 |
| ERYNGIUM (SEA HOLLY) | | \$7.50 TO \$8.50 |
| FLANNEL FLOWER | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$7.00 |
| FREEZIA | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$4.50 |
| GELEZNOWIA (YELLOW BELLS) | 10 | \$4.50 TO \$5.00 |
| GERBERA | 10 | \$7.00 TO \$10.00 |
| GERBERA - MINI | 10 | \$3.50 TO \$5.50 |
| GLADIOLI | 10 | \$8.00 TO \$12.00 |
| GOLDEN ROD (SOLIDAGO) | 10 | \$2.50 TO \$4.00 |
| GYMEA LILIES | PER STEM | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| GYPSOPHILA - STANDARD | | \$3.00 TO \$6.00 |
| GYPSY | | \$3.00 |
| HELLEBORUS | 5 | \$4.50 TO \$5.50 |
| HELICONIA | 5 | \$6.00 |
| HELICONIA CLAW | PER STEM | \$4.00 TO \$7.50 |
| HELICONIA SEXY | PER STEM | \$7.50 TO \$10.00 |
| HYACINTH | | \$4.50 TO \$5.50 |
| IRIS | 10 | \$4.50 TO \$6.50 |
| IXODIA DAISY | 10 | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| JONQUILS | 10 | \$1.40 TO \$1.50 |
| KALE | PER STEM | \$4.50 |
| KALE | 5 | \$17.50 TO \$20.00 |
| KANGAROO PAW - BLACK | | \$8.00 |
| KANGAROO PAW - STANDARD | 10 | \$5.50 |
| LAVENDER | | \$3.00 |
| LEUCADENDRON | 5 | \$2.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LEUCADENDRON - DISCOLOUR | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LEUCADENDRON - GALAPINI | 5 | \$4.50 |
| LEUCADENDRON - SAFARI SUNSET | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LEUCADENDRON - SILVAN RED | 5 | \$3.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LEUCODENDRON - SILVER TREE | | \$3.00 |
| LEUCOSPERMUM - REFLEXUM | 5 | \$3.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LIATRIS | 10 | \$3.50 TO \$7.00 |
| LILY - ASIATIC | 5 | \$4.50 TO \$5.00 |
| LILY - LONGIFLORUM | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$10.00 |
| LILY - ORIENTAL | 5 | \$10.00 TO \$13.00 |
| LILY - LA | 5 | \$4.50 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 | \$6.00 TO \$8.00 |
| LOTUS PODS | | \$3.00 |
| MICHELIA | 5 | \$9.00 TO \$12.00 |
| ORCHID - CYMBIDIUM | PER STEM | \$13.00 TO \$17.00 |

| NAME | STEMS PER BUNCH | PRICE RANGE |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ORCHID - SINGAPORE | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$8.00 |
| ORCHID - TIGER | 5 | \$11.50 |
| ORCHID - TIGER (DANCING LADIES) | 10 | \$25.00 |
| POKERS | 5 | \$4.50 TO \$6.00 |
| POPPIES | 10 | \$3.50 |
| PROTEA - KING | PER STEM | \$1.00 TO \$2.00 |
| PROTEA - PINK ICE | | \$2.50 TO \$4.00 |
| QUEEN ANNE'S LACE | | \$6.50 |
| RANUNCULUS | | \$3.50 |
| ROSE - 30CM | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$6.00 |
| ROSE - 40CM | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$9.00 |
| ROSE - 50CM | 10 | \$5.00 TO \$10.00 |
| ROSE - 60CM | 10 | \$9.00 TO \$11.00 |
| ROSE - 70CM+ | 10 | \$10.00 TO \$12.00 |
| ROSE - MINI | 10 | \$4.50 TO \$7.00 |
| SEDUM | 10 | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| SNAPDRAGON | 10 | \$2.50 TO \$5.00 |
| SOLIDASTER | 10 | \$3.00 TO \$3.50 |
| STIRLINGIA (BUD) | | \$5.00 |
| STOCK | | \$2.50 TO \$3.50 |
| STRAWBERRY FIELDS | | \$2.50 TO \$3.00 |
| STRELITZIA - BIRD OF PARADISE | 5 | \$6.00 TO \$10.00 |
| SWEETPEA | 10 | \$6.50 TO \$7.00 |
| SWEET WILLIAM | | \$2.00 TO \$2.50 |
| TULIPS | 10 | \$8.00 |
| VIOLETS | | \$2.50 |
| WALLFLOWERS | | \$2.50 TO \$4.00 |
| WAX FLOWER (BUD) | 10 | \$3.00 TO \$4.00 |
| WAX FLOWER (OPEN) | 10 | \$4.50 TO \$6.00 |
| FOLIAGE | | |
| ANDROMEDA (FLOWERING) | | \$4.50 TO \$6.00 |
| ARALIA | PER STEM | \$5.00 |
| BAMBOO | PER STEM | \$2.00 TO \$20.00 |
| BANANA LEAF | 20 | \$20.00 |
| BERZELIA LANUGINOSA | 5 | \$6.00 TO \$7.00 |
| BIXIA | | \$6.50 |
| BULLRUSHES | 4 | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| BUXUS | 7 | \$3.00 TO \$3.50 |
| CAMELIA BUDS | 5 | \$4.50 TO \$5.50 |
| CORDYLINE | 10 | \$4.50 TO \$5.00 |
| CORK ELM | 5 | \$6.00 TO \$7.00 |
| CYPRUS | 10 | \$2.50 |
| DODDA VINE | | \$4.50 |
| DOGWOOD | | \$4.00 TO \$6.00 |
| FAN PALM | 10 | \$5.00 |
| FLOWERING QUINCE | 2-5 | \$6.00 TO \$7.50 |
| GARRYA | 3 | \$5.00 TO \$7.00 |
| GERBERA FOLIAGE | | \$3.00 |
| GINGER FOLIAGE | | \$5.00 |
| GOLDEN ASH (BUDDING) | | \$6.00 TO \$7.00 |
| GREVILLIA (FLOWERING - MOONLIGHT) | | \$4.00 |
| GUM | | \$2.50 |
| HAPPY PLANT | 10 | \$6.00 |
| HOSTA LEAVES | | \$4.00 |
| HYPERICUM BERRIES | 10 | \$5.00 TO \$8.00 |
| HYPOCALYMYMA (MYRTLE - GOLDEN VEIL) | 30CM (200GM) | \$5.50 |
| IVY | | \$3.00 TO \$4.50 |
| JOEY FERN | 10 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| KOALA FERN | 10 | \$4.50 |
| LEATHER FERN | | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| LILLY PILLY | 10 | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| MAGNOLIA FOLIAGE (FLOWERING/BUDDING) | 5 | \$6.50 TO \$7.50 |
| 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 |
| OKRA PODS | 5 | \$7.50 |
| PAPYRUS | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$8.00 |
| PAULONIA | | \$6.00 |
| PEPPERCORN | | \$4.50 TO \$5.50 |
| PHILODENDRON - XANADU | 5-6 | \$4.00 TO \$6.00 |
| PIMELEA | | \$5.50 |
| POLYGALA (FLOWERING) | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| PRUNUS (FLOWERING) | 5 | \$6.00 TO \$7.50 |
| RHODODENDRON BUDS | 5 | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| RHODODENDRON FLOWERING | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| SILVER SUEDE | | \$5.00 TO \$6.00 |
| SPEAR GRASS | | \$2.00 TO \$3.00 |
| SPRUCE (BLUE) | 5 | \$4.00 TO \$5.00 |
| TETRAGONA GUM NUTS | 3-4 | \$6.00 TO \$8.00 |
| THRYPDOMENE | | \$2.50 |

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