PLANT FACT SHEET

Banksia ericifolia L. f.

GENUS *Banksia* **FAMILY** Proteaceae

COMMON NAMES Heath banksia, Heath-leaved Banksia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: flower - nectar

DESCRIPTION

A medium shrub. It grows 2-5 m high and spreads 1.5-2.5 m wide. The leaves are narrow with a blunt end. They are green above and silvery underneath. The leaves are 1-2 cm long by 0.2-0.3 cm wide. The flowers are orange-red and they have hooked styles. The flower heads are 25 cm long. The fruit are follicles. These retain the seeds at maturity.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate plant. It often grows on exposed sandstone cliffs. It is hardy and can grow under a range of conditions. It can survive moderate frosts. It can stand salt spray. It suits hardiness zones 9-10.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or cuttings. The seed need treatment with hot water.

NOTES

There are about 75 Banksia species. They are mostly in Australia.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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