

***Banksia serrata* - Old Man Banksia**

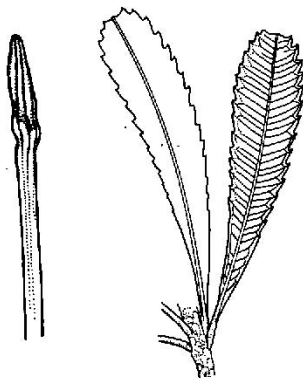
Family:
Proteaceae

Distribution:
Southern, central and north coast of New South Wales. In HSC; Communities L1 (837.3 ha), Q1 (271.1 ha), R (281.1 ha), A (5,579.4ha), C (638.4 ha), E (46.5 ha), F (1289.6 ha), B (93.4 ha), D (4408.7 ha) & G (657.7 ha). Although Old Man Banksia occurs in a number of vegetation communities across HSC area, it is only in Community G that it comprises part of the dominant canopy as a tree.

Common Name:
Old Man Banksia.

Derivation of Name:
Banksia; in honour of Joseph Banks, named by Carl von Linne'. ***serrata***, from Latin serratus; saw edged.

Conservation Status:
Well conserved in a number of vegetation communities, however it is threatened in small fragmented bushland reserves by both a lack of fire to stimulate natural recruitment and susceptibility to *Phytophthora cinnamomi* disease.



Description:
Tree to 12 m high in HSC depending upon fire disturbance history; bark rough, very thick, warty and grey to brown in colour, extending to smaller branches. Adult leaves are stiff with coarsely toothed margins to 20cm in length, 1.5cm to 4cm wide. The cream- yellow flowers occur through late summer to autumn and are followed by heavy persistent woody cones that retain old flower parts giving a woolly appearance.

Longevity:
Over 100 years. Resprouts after wildfire.

Horticultural Merit and uses:
An attractive small tree for many horticultural applications. Rarely exceeds 6m in cultivation; as such has great potential use for street tree planting particularly under service lines. Tolerant of most soil types with good drainage except the heaviest of clays. Grows best in full sun or very light shade. Can be pruned. Attractive large flowers provide an interesting addition in late summer through autumn. Very hardy once established.

Fauna Value:
Abundant flowers provide nectar and pollen to a wide range of bird species and arboreal mammals as well as many insects. Fruit also provide a seed source for cockatoos.





