Callistemon pinifolius



Family: Myrtaceae

Distribution: Forests and woodlands in central New

South Wales, usually in damp places

Common Name:

Pine-leaved Bottlebrush

Derivation of *Callistemon...*from Greek *kalos*; beautiful

and *stemon*; stamens

pinifolius...a reference to the similarity of

the foliage to the genus *Pinus*

Conservation Not considered to be at risk in the wild.

Status:

Name:

General Description:

Callistemon pinifolius is usually an an easily identified species because of its very narrow leaves, which are quite distinctive in comparison to the broader foliage of most other members of the genus.



The common green-flowered form of Callistemon pinifolius



An unusual orange/red form of Callistemon pinifolius

Photos: Brian Walters

This species is a small to medium shrub rarely exceeding 1.5 metres in height. The brushes are usually green in colour but red flowered forms are sometimes seen in the wild and may appear in cultivation as chance seedlings. *C.pinifolius* has some similarity with *C.linearis* (which has red flowers and slightly wider leaves) and sometimes occurs in the same locations as that species.

C.pinifolius is reasonably common in cultivation and seems more resistant to attacks by sawfly larvae than the broader leafed species. The plant responds to annual fertilising after flowering and may be pruned severely if necessary. Many callistemons can tolerate less than perfect drainage but usually perform best in gardens with reasonable drainage and regular availability of water.