



*Baeckea frutescens* – family: MYRTACEAE

## WEEPING BAECKEA

Weeping woody shrub 1 to 3 metres.

Masses of small white flowers October to November.

**Cultivation:** Very hardy shrub to small tree; will tolerate average to well-drained soils in full sun.

This very hardy wallum shrub grows in the sandy soils of the coastal regions of Port Macquarie in NSW to south of Townsville in QLD. It is also found in wet eucalypt forests and wallum woodlands. The



branches are sprawling, sometimes weeping and the tiny needle-like leaves are aromatic when crushed. Masses of small white flowers appear from mid-October through to November and also in the winter months and are a great source of nectar for bees and other insects. The seeds are shed from small segmented capsules. Regular pruning will encourage bushiness.



Chinese use the leaves as a remedy for sunstroke and fever. The leaves are used as an ingredient of native medicine given to mothers after childbirth in Malaysia and Indonesia. The flowers of this plant are used to treat dyspepsia and menstrual problems. The essential oil from this plant is used in the treatment of rheumatism.