



# Banksia marginata

## Silver Banksia



(Seeds of South Australia)



(Rappman, iNaturalist Australia)



(Seeds of South Australia)



(Hunt, L, SA Butterflies & Moths)



Adult female  
Fiery Jewel from  
Yorke Peninsula,  
males resemble  
the appearance  
of females.

Adult male  
Fiery Jewel  
from  
Upper  
Southeast.

(SA Butterflies & Moths)

**Form:** Medium tree   **Height:** 1 – 10 m   **Spread:** 5 m   **Flowers:** Yellow   **Type:** Cylindrical spike   **Flowering time:** Spring, Autumn

**Ecological functions:**



**Soils:** sand, clay or loam; acidic, alkaline or neutral

**Germination rate:** 4 to 24 weeks

**Seed collecting:** collect mature cones with obvious un-open valves. Place in very warm to hot area to allow the valves to open. Then shake the cones to dislodge seeds.

**Seed treatment:** none. Seeds are non-dormant, viable seed should germinate readily without pre-treatment.

**Sowing requirements:** cover with 2 mm of damp soil and firm gently. Then cover with a layer of gravel. Sow in late-Winter to early Spring. Sow in full sun, not under shade cloth.

**Position:** full sun, part shade.

**Supplementary watering:** minimal

**Uses:** suitable for coastal locations. Indigenous peoples used flower spikes to make a sweet drink and dried cones to make implements. Food host to Fiery Jewel (*Hypochrysops ignitus*) caterpillars.

**Notes:** excessive light pruning can cause heavy leaf growth and less flowers. Pruning too hard into old wood can cause permanent damage to the tree.