

Botanical Name: Calothamnus villosus

Common Name: Silky net bush

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Family Myrtaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright spreading to sprawling shrub with needle-like foliage and slender, ascending branches; foliage is covered with very fine hairs

Height to 8 ft. Spread to 8 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred

Soil prefers excellent drainage; thrives in gravelly soil

Hardiness some frost; Zones 8,9, 12-24

Morphology:

Leaves linear leaves to 1" long covered by tiny, soft hairs; leaves usually pale to bronzy green at branch tips; sparsely alternate lower down

Flowers scarlet-red brushy flowers extending from one side of last year's growth; brushy stamens attached to petal-less flowers; blooms in spring

Fruit small woody capsules

Propagation: stem cuttings or seed

Usage: very distinctive shrub for bright flowers and unusual foliage; mixes well with Mediterranean theme gardens, California native, dry slopes, rustic gardens and mixed perennial beds, adaptable and easy to grow

Landscape Care:

Watering average watering; can tolerate drought once established, but looks best with average water

Fertilizing slow release at planting time

Pruning selectively head back to encourage bushiness

Pests/Diseases scale, root rot in poorly-drained soils

Other _____

Origin: Australia