

Botanical Name: Calocephalus brownii

Common Name: Cushion bush

Type of Plant: dicot: perennial Family Asteraceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape peculiar silvery, mounding plant with tiny, nearly invisible leaves; resembles pincushion because of silhouette and structure of narrow stems

Height to 3 ft. Spread to 3 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred

Soil prefers excellent drainage; thrives in gravelly soil

Hardiness some frost; Zones 16, 17, 19, 21-24; best in 17 and 24

Morphology:

Leaves tiny linear leaves to 3/16" long forming over much branching stems; leaves lay flat against branches and are almost threadlike

Flowers head inflorescence without ray flowers; forms 1/2" button-like held above foliage

Fruit tiny achenes

Propagation: stem cuttings

Usage: excellent source of silver foliage as a tall ground cover or subshrub, superb sea coast plant, works well with succulents, in rock gardens or mixed with Mediterranean plantings; considered most appropriate as seacoast plant

Landscape Care:

Watering keep dry; plant will quickly rot if over watered or kept in poorly drained soil

Fertilizing slow release at planting time

Pruning remove dead wood on older plants; younger plants generally none

Pests/Diseases root rot when over watered or in poorly drained soil

Other

Origin: Australia