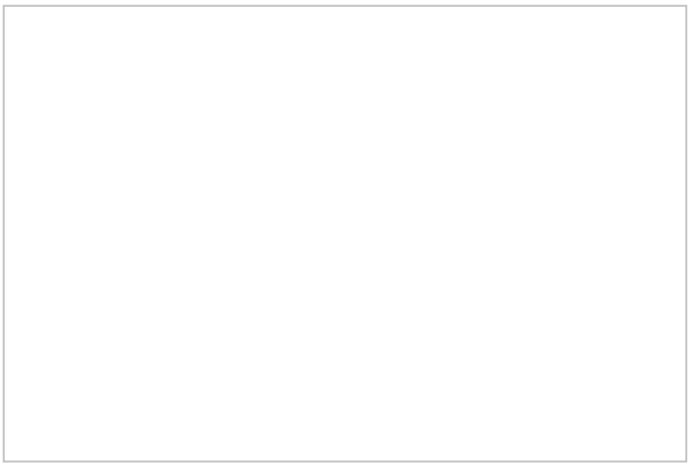
Lemon bottlebrush



Melaleuca citrina, commonly known as common red, crimson or lemon bottlebrush, is a plant in the myrtle family, Myrtaceae and is endemic to New South Wales and Victoria in Australia. (*Callistemon citrinus* and *Callistemon lanceolatus* is an older name.) It is a hardy and adaptable species, common in its natural habitat. Its showy red flower spikes, present over most of the year in an ideal situation, account for its popularity.

Melaleuca citrina is a shrub growing to 5 m (20 ft) tall but more usually in the range 1–3 m (3–10 ft) high and wide. The flowers are red and arranged in spikes on the ends of branches that continue to grow after flowering and sometimes also in the upper leaf axils. *Melaleuca citrina* occurs in near coastal areas of New South Wales, including the Blue Mountains and extends as far west as the Central Western Slopes. It also occurs in the east coast areas of Victoria and grows in swamps and along creeks and rivers.

The cultivar 'Splendens' is a form with a compact and rounded habit, growing to about 4 metres high and wide.

Category: Flowering shrubs
Families: Myrtaceae
Genus: Melaleuca
Species: citrinus "Splendens"
Geographical Area of Origin: Oceania
Climatic Zones: Sub-tropical, USDA 10 b (Southern Italy and islands)
Habit: Shrub
Leaves: Evergreen
Colore Foglie: Verde
Flowering Period: Aprile / Maggio / Giugno / Luglio / Agosto / Settembre / Ottobre
Flower: Ear
Colore Fiori: Rosso
Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Middle-Dough / Medium soil

Water needs: Medium
Light Exposure: Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun
Form: Tree / Grown as shrub / bush
Colore Frutti: Marrone