

## *Callistemon lanceolatus* DC.

### Systematic Position

Kingdom: Plantae

Phylum: Magnoliophyta

Class: Magnoliophyta

Order: Myrtales

Family: Myrtaceae

Genus: *Callistemon*

Species: *C. lanceolatus*



**Popular names:** Bottle Brush, Drooping Bottle brush, Botalburoosh.

**Nature:** Tree

**Flowering time:** March to July

**Fruiting time:** May to August

**Plant distribution:** It is native of South-Eastern Australia. Now a days, it is very popular in India also and is commonly grown as an ornamental plant because of its beautiful flowers.

### Gardening notes:

**1. Light:** It grows well in full sun light.

**2. Water:** It can tolerate both water logging and drought conditions.

**3. Propagation:** By seeds and semi-hard wood cuttings.

### **Economic importance:**

1. Leaves yield an essential oil.
2. It is widely planted as an ornamental tree in tropical and subtropical parts of the world.
3. In Australian cities, the weeping bottlebrush is highly valued for its tolerance of atmospheric pollution.
4. Its timber has been reported to be tough and strong but is seldom available in sizes large enough to be used for anything more than tool handles and small objects.

**Plant description:** A small evergreen tree reaching to a height of nearly 20 feet.

**Root-** Tap root, branched; **Stem-** Aerial, erect, woody, branched, branches slender, drooping, solid, cylindrical, hairy, **bark-** rough, dark brown with deep, vertical furrows in vertical axis.

**Leaf-** Simple, narrow, tapering at both ends, green, young leaves softly hairy, blade 6-8 cm long, 0.5-0.7 cm wide, cauline, lanceolate, acute apex, entire margins, prominent midrib, uncostate reticulate venation, petiolate, petiole very short just 1 cm long.

**Inflorescence-** Spike.

**Flower-** Small, crowded on spike about 8 cm long, sessile, hermaphrodite, actinomorphic, complete, bracteate, bracts small, leafy, green, bracteolate, two bracteoles, curved, epigynous; **Sepals-** 5, gamosepalous, green, superior, hairy, quincuncial aestivation; **Petals-** 5, small, polypetalous, whitish green, drooping off early, clawed, hairy, superior, quincuncial aestivation ; **Stamens-** indefinite, monoadelphous, joined in a ring at base, scarlet red, filaments- long, slightly

connate at the base, anthers- dorsifixed, bicelled, dark brown, longitudinal dehiscence; Carpel- vary from 2-4 even in different flowers of the same spike, syncarpous, ovary- inferior, 3-4 chambered according to the number of carpels, axile placentation, 1-2 ovules in each locule, style 1-2 cm long, brown, stigma simple, brownish, hairy.

**Fruit-** Small, woody, cup-shaped capsules, rounded, hairy, brownish, numerous seeds, sepals persistent; **Seed-** Minute, brown.

