

# Feature Plant Protea

These South African beauties are used to the harsh summer sun! A definite highlight for any garden, Proteas put on a magnificent show of bright, goblet shaped blooms from late winter to spring.

You can grow them in an exposed, full sun position in free-draining soil, however being heat & cold tolerant they won't grow in places with high humidity, so are not a good one for the tropics!

They are closely related to Leucospermum, Serruria, Leucadendron which also have varieties that can be grown all around Australia.

A key tip for growing a well shaped Protea shrub is to only

cut stems with flowers on, as the rest become flowers for the next season.

Once established, Proteas require very little water & will benefit from a small amount of Super Growth Pellets come spring & summer. Avoid disrupting their root system by mulching around the base.



#### Did you know?

Bamboo varieties are the fasteds growing woody plant in the world! In some cases they can grow 88cm in a day! What an amazing plant!

Gardening simply does not allow one to be mentally old, because too many hopes and dreams are yet to be realized.

Allan Armitage

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### What to Plant

#### Flowers

#### Cool Climate/Temperate

Ageratum Cyclamen Malope Schizanthus Viola

Alyssum Iceland Poppy Marigold Stock Vinca

Cleome Linaria **Pansy** Verbena Wallflower

#### Subtropical

Ageratum Celosia Marigold Torenia

Aster Gomphrena Salvia Vinca

Balsam **Impatiens** Sunflower Zinnia

#### Tropical

Balsam Coleus Marigold Sunflower Celosia Gomphrena Petunia Torenia

Coxscomb **Impatiens** Salvia Vinca

## Garden Inspiration

- Give all herbs, vegetables, shrubs and flowering plants a dose of Seaweed Liquidto help prevent disease over Summer.
- Use a higher cutting height when mowing the lawn to provide shade for the soil and roots and avoid moisture loss.
- Trim back herbs to prevent fungal infections from humidity.
- Neaten up hedges and evergreen trees to encourage bushy growth.
- Re-mulch your gardens after a good watering, lay down Katek Not Just Mulch about 7cm thick. This will keep the moisture in the soil and plants hydrated.

Super Chicken's



#### Vegetables/Herbs

#### Cool Climate/Temperate

Beetroot Cabbage Cucumber Leek Lettuce Pumpkin Radish Silverbeet

#### Subtropical

Artichoke Eggplant **Beans** Lettuce Silver Beet Sweetcorn **Sweet Potato** Tomato Watermelon

#### Tropical

Artichoke **Beetroot** Capsicum Pumpkin Celery Lettuce **Shallots Spring Onion** Tomato

Whether you are feeling a little stuck for inspiration or you have more gardening projects than you can

handle, here are some garden ideas to sink your teeth into in 2019.













