

Indigenous Plants for Ballarat Gardens



Prickly Moses

Acacia verticillata

FAST FACTS

Shrub

Family:	Mimosaceae
	Wattle
Size:	4m H x 4m W
Position:	Sunny to part shade
Soil:	Well watered
Flowers:	Spring
Fruits:	Pods
Care:	Prune when young

Prickly Moses (*Acacia verticillata*) is an Australian native shrub from the Ballarat region that prefers to grow in low-lying damp areas.

Location: It can grow into quite a large spreading shrub (4m x 4m) if given plenty of water, so make sure you plant it in a space that will allow it to reach its full splendor over the next 5 years or more.

Prickly Moses likes a sunny, well watered position. You might want to plant it at the back of a large garden bed or away from areas where people may walk or play as the leaves are in fact quite prickly.

Leaves: The leaves of the Prickly Moses are short, needle-like spines.

Flowers: One of Australia's beautiful wattles, the flowers of the Prickly Moses are pale yellow, fluffy, elongated clusters

on the ends of every branch. It can be completely covered by them during spring.

Planting: Prickly Moses will grow really well in your garden if planted in a hole not much larger than the pot within a few days of purchase. Give it a good ½ bucket of water as soon as you plant it. Make sure that the soil doesn't dry out too much over summer.

Care: You may need to check soil moisture during summer. Pruning in the first few years will help keep the Prickly Moses dense and promote lots of flowers.

Propagation: Prickly Moses will grow well from seed collected over summer. Soak the seeds in freshly boiled water for 15 minutes to crack the hard seed coat. Sprinkle the seed on damp potting mix, cover with a couple of millimetres of additional mix and keep moist.