Hakea preissii

Needle bush

Fruit

Flowers
**Hakea preissii**

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**Plant features**

**Growth form**  
An erect, tall shrub to small tree 2-7m high.

**Leaves**  
Olive green cylindrical leaves, 2mm in diameter and 10-30mm long, ending in a sharp, 3mm long spike. The leaves are held at near right angles to the stem.

**Flowers**  
Greenish yellow with a strong honey smell. Usually in clusters of 20 or more flowers over most of the plant. Originate from the junction of the leaves and stems. Flowers from Sept-Dec.

**Fruits**  
Oblong / boat shaped, 20-30mm long with two subdued horns on the end. Light brown in colour. The hard woody fruit splits to release two papery seeds.

**Bark**  
Coarsely grey to brown bark on all or part of the trunk.

**Distribution**

Found across the Avon catchment and most of southern WA.

**Zone, habitat**

Found on floodfringes, sand rises on saline waterways, floodways of lakes, rivers and other waterways. Grows on many soil types including grey clays and alluvial loams.

**Additional information**

A very useful mid storey shrub that is excellent in providing dense habitat for birds. Plant in clumps to assist with the forming of thickets. Moderately salt and waterlogging tolerant. Can be grown from tubestock or possibly direct seeded. It is an important food source for a range of fauna when flowering. Its network of roots also helps stabilise floodplains. Seed can be collected in any month from mature fruits.