

## Australian Native Plants

Contrary to popular opinion, most Australian native plants will respond well to a regular fertilizer regime. Nutritional requirements vary and some native plants are extremely sensitive to any significant presence of phosphorous in the soil. Plant genera such as *Boronia*, *Crowea*, *Eriostemon* and some *Grevilleas* may react badly to the presence of any phosphorus.

Paton has therefore developed a unique **Native Plant Food**. Paton's Native Plant Food is an organically based blend that has been formulated to meet the specific requirements of a wide range of Native Plants. Native Plant Food is organically based and contains a full range of essential and trace nutrients. With its low phosphorus content, it can be used with confidence on the majority of native plants, including *Banksias*, *Callistemon*, *Grevillia*, *Eucalypts*, *Fichus* and *Proteas*.

### How Much to Apply

For small plants, apply 50-75 grams per square metre, 3 or 4 times each year. For large plants, apply 100-150 grams per square metre, 3 or 4 times each year. Feeding during the months of August, October, December and March will provide best results. For sandy soils, use less (approximately half) than the application rates advised above but feed more regularly. This will prevent excess nutrients leaching into the environment and provide more nutrients to the plant. Some Native Plants are extremely sensitive to any significant presence of phosphorus in soil. Plant genera such as *Boronia*, *Crowea*, *Eriostemon* and some *Grevilleas* may react badly to the presence of any phosphorus at all. If in doubt consult your local qualified nursery staff for assistance.

### How to Apply

Apply the formula to the drip zone of the plant and lightly work into the soil surface or cover with an organic mulch. Be careful not to damage fine shallow surface roots as this renders them prone to fungal attack and fertilizer burn.