

Ozothamnus - Growing Guide

Growing Ozothamnus

Ozothamnus are valued herbaceous or smallish evergreen shrubs which originate from Tasmania, New Zealand and SE Australia. They are closely related to Cassinia and Helichrysum and have a very similar use in our gardens as these sun loving plants, which grow in rocky places and on heathland from the coastal regions to mountainous areas, are ideal plants for hot dry coastal gardens, rockeries (for smaller growing species) and hot shrub borders (for larger ones). The name Ozothamnus is often confused with Helichrysum and plants may be found in nurseries bearing either name.

O. ledifolius, the Kerosene bush, is a small globular, dense growing aromatic shrub growing to about 3ft in height. It has yellowish green shoots with oblong-linear dark green leaves up to ½in long. The leaves have a yellowish indumentum on their undersides and small white flower heads in dense corymbs. The plant produces a sticky aromatic secretion which makes the plant highly flammable in the wild.



Ozothamnus ledifolius



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O. rosmarinifolius 'Silver Jubilee' has silvery grey foliage and is a popular plant in the nursery.



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Ozothamnus hookeri



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