

## Telopia (Protea) - Growing Guide

### Growing *Telopea Truncata*

Commonly known as 'Tasmanian Waratah'

Telopeas fall within the protea family and, elsewhere on our site, you can see a more detailed article about [caring for and growing proteas](#). As you would expect these plants are exceptionally beautiful in flower; their other old name of *Embothrium truncatum* will give you a clue as to the colour and appearance of their flowers. The Greek word 'telopos' means 'which can be seen from afar' and refers to the flowers.

*T. truncata* is an evergreen and probably the only member of the telopea family which can be grown or attempted outside in the mildest Cornish coastal locations. We grew one at Caerhays for a decade in an upraised bed in the hottest driest position which we have in the garden. It never flowered but looked perfectly happy until a cold winter killed it off. In the nursery we have had occasional success in flowering *T. truncata* in a glasshouse.

*T. truncata* is a bushy shrub in Tasmania with easily recognisable lance shaped leaves. The flower heads are 2-3in across and consist of 10 to 20 long tubular individual flowers.

These are plants we import occasionally from a French grower. If you can get one to flower in your conservatory you will be in for a bonanza of colour!

Images to follow

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