

Indigenous Plants for Ballarat Gardens



Swamp Pennywort

Centella cordifolia

FAST FACTS

Groundcover

Family:	Apiaceae
	Carrot
Size:	15cm H x 30cm W
Position:	Sunny to light shade
Soil:	Moist
Flowers:	Inconspicuous
Fruits:	Inconspicuous
Care:	Low maintenance

A small, lush groundcover, **Swamp Pennywort** (*Centella cordifolia*) is an Australian native from the Ballarat area.

Location: Prefers a sunny to lightly shaded position in moist soil – perhaps in a swale or under a well-watered tree. Several plants should be spaced at 30cm intervals to obtain good dense coverage.

Leaves: The leaves are the highlight of this attractive plant, adding a cool, lush look to your garden even at the height of summer. They are dark green, waxy and heart-shaped. In shade, leaves are held upright like hundreds of small flags. In full sun they will hug the ground.

Planting: Though Pennywort might look delicate, it is actually quite tough and will grow well in your garden if planted in a hole not much larger than the pot within a few

days of purchase. Give each plant a good ½ bucket or more of water as soon as you plant it and it should then only need watering if it starts to wilt towards the end of a long dry summer.

Care: Pennywort will never need pruning but to keep it looking its best, it may need a little extra water over dry summer months. Although it looks fabulous and will help keep weeds down, Pennywort won't do well if walked on, so is not a good lawn substitute.

Propagation: After a couple of years you could dig up a small clump to replant somewhere else in your garden.