

# Indigenous Plants for Ballarat Gardens



Photograph (top): Neil Huybregts

## Hop Goodenia

### Goodenia ovata

#### FAST FACTS

##### Shrub

Family:	Goodeniaceae
	Fan Flower
Size:	1m H x 1m W
Position:	Shady
Soil:	Moist
Flowers:	Spring / Summer
Fruits:	Inconspicuous
Care:	Prune

A bushy shrub growing up to 1m high and wide, **Hop Goodenia** (*Goodenia ovata*) is an Australian native shrub from the Ballarat region.

**Location:** Plant in a fairly shady, moist spot. Hop Goodenia look good as a group in a large garden bed, but it also looks fantastic as a feature in a garden bed amongst other plants.

**Leaves:** Leaves are a broad, oval shape and yellow-green in colour. On seedlings, leaves may appear a bit scrappy with yellowing and brown-red spotty markings.

**Flowers:** Hop Goodenia flowers for a long time over spring and summer, producing lots of gold flowers amongst the bright green leaves.

**Planting:** Hop Goodenia are quite tough and will grow really well in your garden if planted within a few days of purchase in a hole not much larger than the pot. Give it a good  $\frac{1}{2}$  bucket of water as soon as you plant it and it should be fine after that.

**Care:** Unless you prune the plant, its stems can become quite long and arching. Prune in late summer or autumn, taking off about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of its height. It will bounce back with lovely fresh growth within a few weeks.

**Propagation:** When you prune, cut some of the stems into 15cm lengths, insert the lower end deep into potting mix and keep moist for several months until new roots form and leaves begin to grow.