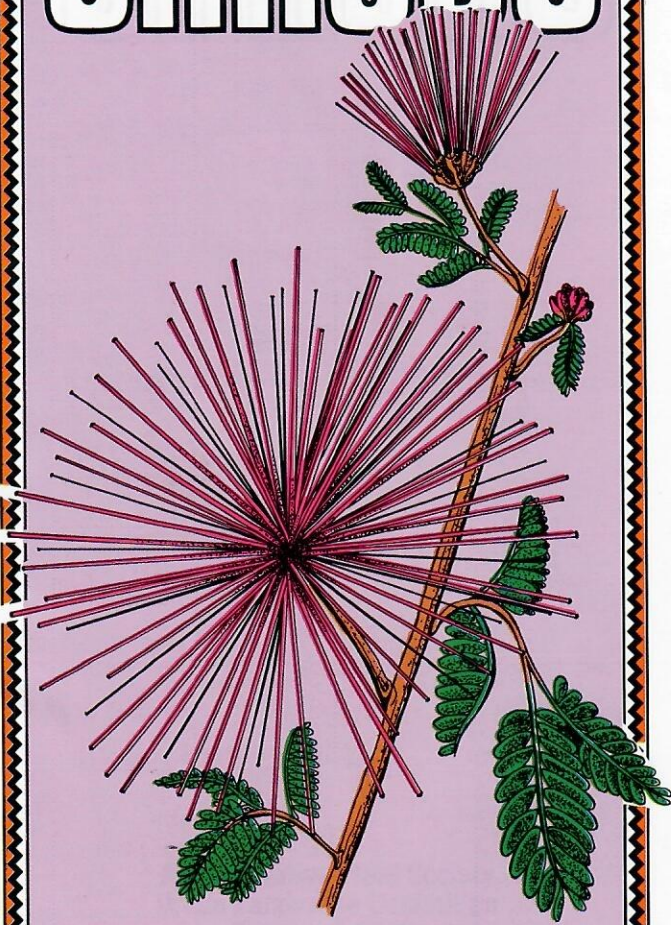




DESERT SHRUBS



Published by the
Arizona Native Plant Society



DESERT SHRUBS



By
Arizona Native Plant Society
Urban Landscape Committee
Tucson, Arizona
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INTRODUCTION

55



Justicia spicigera P. 20

In this second Arizona Native Plant Society (ANPS) publication on desert plants for urban landscapes, 50 shrubs that are well adapted to the desert climates of the Southwest are described. Thirty-six plants are native to the Sonoran and Chihuahuan

desert regions. The rest are outstanding plants from other arid regions. The included exotics are not invasive, and thus do not threaten our native plant communities. All recommended shrubs have been tested and perform well in most of the desert Southwest.

The primary purpose of ANPS is to promote the conservation of our native plants and their environments. One means to achieve this goal is through the use of water-efficient landscapes. By selecting low water-using plants we help protect riparian habitats threatened by lowered ground water tables, emphasize the use of regional natives, and at the same time encourage the use of desert adapted non-native flora.

The most important criteria used to select those shrubs are as follows:

- 1. Low water use.** All shrubs are included in the low water use/drought tolerant plant list from the Arizona Department of Water Resources.
- 2. Cold hardiness.** Plants are cold hardy to temperatures listed in the text. These shrubs will survive most winters in the desert Southwest. Shrubs described as "semi-hardy" may need protection and are not recommended for low-lying cold pockets or the higher elevations. Many variables other than minimum temperature affect cold hardiness, so use these ratings only as a general guide. For example, young plants are more tender than older plants of the same species.



Salvia farinacea P. 25



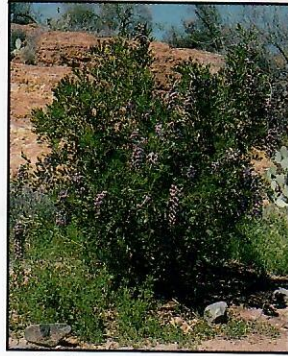
Dalea pulchra P. 11



Caesalpinia pulcherrima P. 24



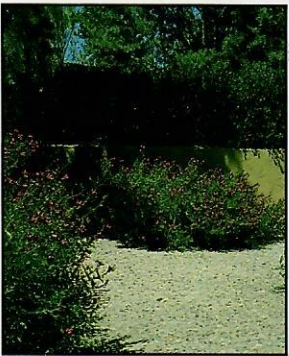
Leucophyllum frutescens P. 28



Sophora secundiflora P. 27



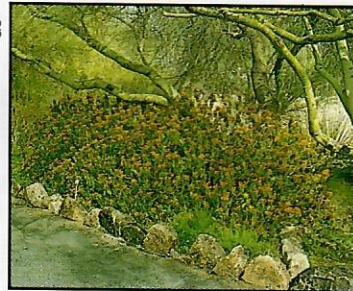
Salvia greggii P. 25



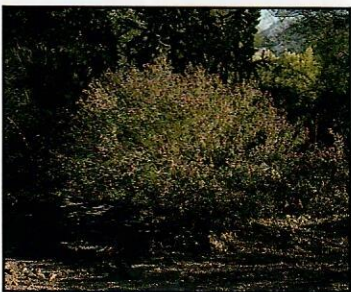
Salvia greggii P. 25



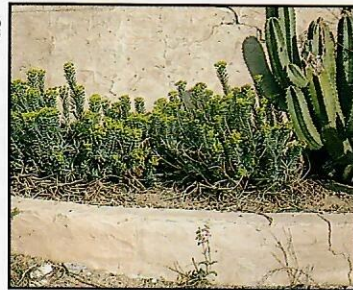
Calliandra eriophylla P. 16



Justicia spicigera P. 20



Dalea frutescens P. 11



Eurphoria biglandulosa P. 31

ARIZONA ROSEWOOD

VAUQUELINIA CALIFORNICA

GM



DESCRIPTION: A native, very dense, evergreen shrub or small tree that grows to 12 feet high and 9 feet wide. It has numerous erect branches from the base, and is usually taller than it is broad. The long, narrow leaves are dark green and leathery.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Clusters of small white flowers are borne at the ends of branches in summer.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Fully hardy and requires only occasional irrigation once established. Growth is slow at first, then moderate if watered on a regular basis.

MAINTENANCE: Needs virtually none; thrives on neglect. Sometimes infested by spider mites, but rarely suffers significant damage. Protect from rabbits during first year in ground. Can be pruned into a small tree.

COMMENTS: An excellent tall screen, hedge, or accent shrub for the buffer zone. *V. sparsiflora* is available sometimes; and it may in fact be identical to *V. californica*. *V. angustifolia* has very narrow leaves; otherwise it's similar to the above.



SA

GM



BLACK DALEA

DALEA FRUTESCENS

GS



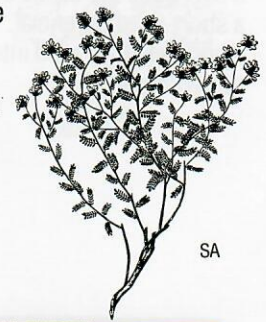
DESCRIPTION: A low, spreading evergreen Chihuahuan Desert shrub to 4 feet high and 5 feet wide. Plants have silvery-green leaves set against yellowish white bark.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Produces clusters of bright rose-purple flowers in late summer and fall. Plants have an open airy appearance unless pruned frequently.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least the mid-teens. Drought tolerant once established. Moderate to fast growth rate depending on amount of water applied.

MAINTENANCE: Occasional pruning will keep shrubs more dense and compact. Prune once in spring as new growth appears, and once in early summer.

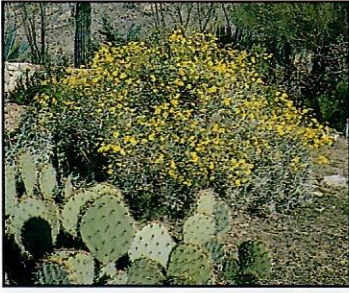
COMMENTS: Excellent shrub for the mini-oasis and transitional zone, although foliage becomes quite sparse in periods of cold or drought. Place Daleas in full sun for best results. Four additional shrubby *Dalea* species are available. Silver Dalea (*D. bicolor* var. *argyrea*) grows to 3 feet high and wide, and has silver-white leaves and rose-purple flowers in fall. Baja Dalea (*D. bicolor* var. *orcuttiana*) grows to 5 feet high and wide, and is the only one of these that is semi-hardy. Stems will freeze at mid-20's. It has gray-green leaves and pinkish-purple flowers in fall, winter and spring. Bush Dalea (*D. pulchra*) grows to 3 or more feet high and wide, and has pink-purple flowers in winter and spring. *D. versicolor* var. *sessilis* is a small shrub reaching a size of 3 feet high and 4 feet wide. It has dark green leaves and purplish flowers in fall, winter, and spring.



SA

BRITTLE BUSH

ENCELIA FARINOSA



GS

DESCRIPTION: A native, short-lived, rounded shrub to 3 feet tall by 4 feet wide. The lance or ovate shaped leaves vary from light gray-green in

well watered situations to silvery white under very dry conditions.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Masses of bright yellow 1.5 inch, daisy-like flower heads are produced on long stems above the plants, usually in February and March, but occasionally in other seasons after summer rains.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Severely damaged in the mid-20's; not recommended for colder areas. Survives on rainfall, even in the driest parts of the desert, but water occasionally to maintain good appearance during summer.

MAINTENANCE: Aphids will attack plants in spring and early summer, and flea beetles can disfigure leaves in spring and fall. Both pests can be controlled by withholding water which will also prevent root rot in heavy soils.

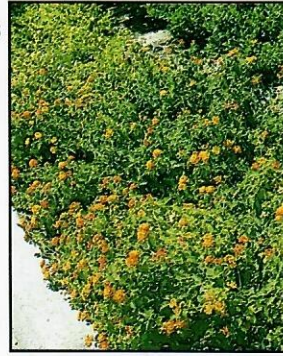
COMMENTS: Use as a color accent in transitional and buffer zones, where plants receive full sun. Water frequently to establish plants, then sparingly if white foliage is desired. Tends to become overgrown and fragile if overwatered. Brittle Bush is a short-lived perennial. It is also a good plant to seed into disturbed areas.



12

BUSH LANTANA

LANTANA CAMARA



CP

DESCRIPTION: This tropical American native shrub grows to 4 feet high and wide. Deep green leaves have toothed edges. Stems and leaves are sometimes prickly on this densely spreading shrub.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Clusters of brightly colored flowers appear throughout the warm season. Flowers may be orange, yellow, red, pink, or white. Often they will open orange or yellow and change to pink or red.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Plants are evergreen in frost-free areas, but leaves turn black at 28 degrees. Plants require regular supplemental watering during the growing season, however, overwatering will reduce flowering. The fast growth rate is not affected by supplemental watering.

MAINTENANCE: Pruning on a regular basis is required to keep some forms of Bush Lantana from becoming rangy and overgrown. Prune in early spring to remove unsightly stems and leaves.

COMMENTS: Use Bush Lantana in the mini-oasis as a color accent, foundation planting, or mass plant as a hedge. There are many cultivars available with varying sizes including: 'Dwarf White', 'Dwarf Yellow', 'Radiation', 'Christine', 'Confetti', 'Irene', and 'Lemon Swirl' with variegated leaves.



13

CREOSOTE

LARREA DIVARICATA

GS



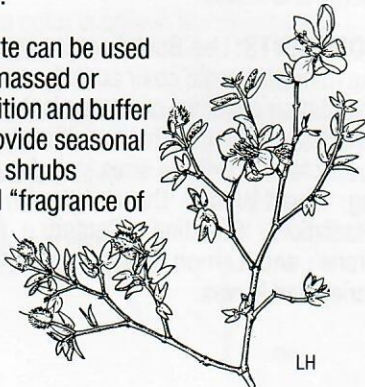
DESCRIPTION: A spreading evergreen native to 10 feet high and wide. Shrubs have an open form unless pruned heavily. Tiny, pointed leaves have a rich green color.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Bright yellow flowers occur in the spring and several times later, usually following rains or watering. The flowers are followed by fuzzy fruits. The open twiggly structure of naturally grown plants is distinctive.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Creosote has a wide geographic range and can tolerate severe weather extremes. The species is extremely drought tolerant once established. Slow growing without irrigation, but grows fast if watered in hot weather. Overwatering can kill Creosote bush.

MAINTENANCE: Can be pruned for dense form or left unpruned and natural.

COMMENTS: Creosote can be used for revegetation and massed or planted singly in transition and buffer zones. Plants also provide seasonal color. Following rains shrubs provide the wonderful "fragrance of the desert."



DESERT CASSIA

CASSIA NEMOPHILA

GM



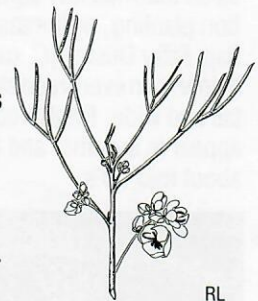
DESCRIPTION: A round evergreen shrub from Australia that grows to 6 feet high and wide. Green leaves are composed of needle-like leaflets.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Plants produce showy yellow flowers in late winter and early spring.

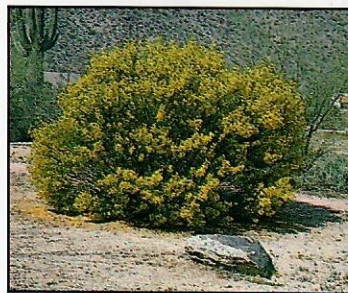
COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least low 20's when kept dry and not in a state of new growth. Moderate to fast growth rate depending on amount of water applied. Low water use once established.

MAINTENANCE: Prune plants after flowering to prevent seed pod formation, which can detract from summer appearance.

COMMENTS: Desert Cassia may be mass planted and clipped as a hedge or planted informally in transitional and buffer zones. Plants are moderately fast growing. Two related species from Australia are Feathery Cassia (*C. artemisioides*) above which has gray foliage and grows to 6 feet high and wide; and Silver Cassia (*C. phyllodinea*) which has silver leaves and also grows to 6 feet high and wide. Neither are as hardy as Desert Cassia.



GS



FAIRY DUSTER

CALLIANDRA ERIOPHYLLA

MD



DESCRIPTION: Small evergreen or deciduous native shrub to 3 feet high and wide. Plants have gray stems and small compound leaves,

giving a delicate, airy appearance.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Clusters of pink or pinkish white flowers appear during summer and fall.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to below 20 degrees. Drought tolerant once established, however blooms better with supplemental water. Moderate growth rate.

MAINTENANCE: Occasional pruning to prevent thin, sparse growth.

COMMENTS: Fairy Duster is used for spring and summer color in all zones of a Xeriscape. Use as an informal low border, foundation planting, or in mass plantings. Baja Fairy Duster (*C. californica*) below is an evergreen shrub to 4 feet tall and wide. Bright red flowers appear in summer and fall. Hardy to about mid-20's.



SA

SS

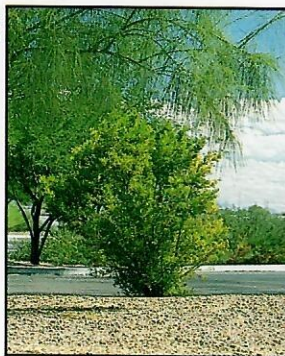


16

HOP BUSH

DODONAEA VISCOSA

DR



DESCRIPTION: A large shrub with bright green leaves and attractive fruit. Native to southern Arizona, and many other warm countries of the world. Plants grow to 10 feet high and 5 feet wide, with an upright form.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Insignificant flowers are followed by tan or rose colored, three winged fruit.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to mid-20's, and low water using once established. Moderate growth rate.

MAINTENANCE: Plants may be left unpruned and natural or pruned to maintain dense growth.

COMMENTS: Use as a medium or large shrub in all Xeriscape zones. Mass plant as a screen or windbreak. Tolerates partial shade. Purple Hop Bush (*D. viscosa* cv 'Purpurea') has purple or red-purple foliage and fruit. It is less hardy than the usual green-leaved wild form, damaged when temperatures reach high 20's. Both forms are susceptible to Texas Root Rot.



PM

17

JOJOBA

SIMMONDSIA CHINENSIS

CS



DESCRIPTION: A native, densely branched, evergreen shrub to 6 feet high and wide with dark green, leathery foliage. The green flowers and brown mature fruits are inconspicuous and interesting at close range. The growth rate is slow.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: The rounded symmetrical growth form and dense foliage make this a versatile shrub in the landscape.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Foliage is damaged by cold when temperatures reach the low-20's, especially on young plants. Severely damaged or killed below 15 degrees, therefore not recommended for cold locations. Needs no supplemental water once established, but will grow slowly. Should be given supplemental watering in summer until desired size is reached.

MAINTENANCE: No maintenance is needed once established. Rabbits may eat newly planted shrubs. Easily pruned to maintain size or shape if desired.

COMMENTS: Jojoba can be used as a medium to large shrub in transitional and buffer zones. Plant singly as a specimen or group as an informal screen or formal hedge. Plant in full sun or only slight shade. Jojoba has potential as an important arid-land crop because the seeds contain a very high quality liquid wax.



LITTLE LEAF CORDIA

CORDIA PARVIFOLIA

CS



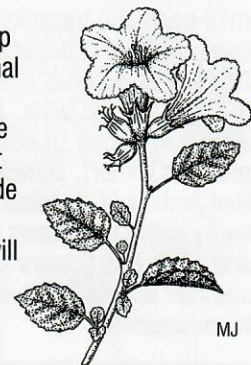
DESCRIPTION: A large spreading shrub reaching 8 feet high and 10 feet across. Plants have small, dark gray-green leaves and dark gray bark. Native to Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Masses of white flowers, each about 1.5 inch wide, appear in late spring and one to several other times during warmer months.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Shrubs are hardy at least to the high teens, and drought tolerant once established. Maintains a moderate growth rate even with supplemental water. Will go deciduous if unirrigated, with no damage, and readily leafs out with water.

MAINTENANCE: Minimal pruning may be desired to control size.

COMMENTS: Plant singly or group as a screen in buffer and transitional zones. Texas Olive (*C. boissieri*) below is a large shrub or small tree eventually reaching 20 feet high. It has clusters of 2 inch long and wide white flowers in late spring and summer. Foliage and small twigs will freeze at mid-20's.



CS



MEXICAN HONEYSUCKLE

JUSTICIA SPICIGERA

GM



DESCRIPTION: An evergreen, rounded or upright shrub to 3 feet high and wide with soft, pale green foliage. Native to Mexico south to Colombia.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Bright orange tubular flowers appear throughout the warm season and attract hummingbirds.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Stems freeze to the ground when temperatures reach the low-20's, unless protected by an overhang. Recovery is quick in spring. Moderate growth rate unless provided with ample water.

MAINTENANCE: Very low maintenance, not susceptible to insect or disease problems. Shrubs may appear chlorotic in heavy alkaline soils.

COMMENTS: Excellent small desert shrub for color in the mini-oasis and transitional zones. Good under trees with open canopies. Chuparosa (*J. californica*) below is a semi-hardy, native shrub that grows to 3-4 feet tall and wide. Red flowers appear in spring (if not frozen the previous winter), summer and fall. Red *Justicia* (*J. candidans*) is a semi-hardy native that grows to 3 feet tall and wide. Red flowers appear in summer and fall. All *Justicias* attract hummingbirds.



CS



MOUNTAIN MARIGOLD

TAGETES LEMMONI

GM



DESCRIPTION: A native, nearly evergreen shrub which grows rapidly to 3 feet tall and 4 feet wide. The finely divided, medium green foliage is very aromatic.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Masses of 1 inch golden-yellow, daisy-like flowers appear from early November until the first hard frost.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Freezes back in the mid 20's; recovers quickly in the spring. Needs ample water through first summer, moderate irrigation thereafter.

MAINTENANCE: Should be cut nearly to the ground in late winter or spring to produce vigorous, dense growth and good flowering. Can be pruned as needed in summer to maintain compact plants. No known pests or diseases.

COMMENTS: Even though it is root hardy, it is less desirable for the coldest areas because hard frosts curtail the blooming season. In frost-free areas bloom continues into early spring. Use as a late season blooming perennial in the mini-oasis or transition zone. Place in either full or filtered sun. Related to the annual marigolds. *Tagetes lucida* grows to 3 feet high and wide. It has narrow, green leaves with the scent of anise. Leaves can be used as seasoning for sun tea or dried and used in hot tea. Flowering, hardiness, and maintenance are the same as for *T. lemmoni*.



OLD MAN SALTBUSH

ATRIPLEX NUMMULARIA



DESCRIPTION: A large, rounded to spreading shrub growing to 6 feet high and 9 feet wide. The bluish-gray leaves give the plant a cool, lush appearance. Native to inland Australia.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: No showy flowers or fruit, but produces moderate amounts of pollen.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least the low 20's. Extremely low water use, even seedlings are drought resistant. Fast growth rate.

MAINTENANCE: Needs occasional pruning to maintain desired size. Can be sheared or thinned.

COMMENTS: This shrub is recommended for use as a hedge or screening plant in desert buffers and for revegetation of disturbed areas. Allow ample room for development.



BM

OLEANDER

NERIUM OLEANDER



DESCRIPTION: This Old World native is a large, upright shrub reaching 20 feet high and up to 10 feet wide, depending on watering. Dark green leaves are evergreen and very dense.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Red, pink, salmon, yellow or white flowers appear at branch tips in spring, summer, and sometimes fall.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Oleander is a heat loving plant that is damaged when temperatures reach the low 20's. Dwarf varieties are less hardy. It does best with several deep irrigations, but will tolerate periods of neglect.

MAINTENANCE: Amount of pruning varies with desired effect. Little pruning is required for open-grown specimens, however size may be controlled by occasional pruning. Hedges require annual pruning.

COMMENTS: Use Oleander as a hedge in the transition and buffer zones or use dwarf forms as foundation plants in the mini-oasis. All parts of Oleander plants are poisonous! Wear gloves when pruning because sap from broken leaves or cut stems may irritate eyes and skin. Do not use as firewood. Oleander may be infested by aphids and scale. Bacterial galls cause warty growth, split branches or blackened, deformed flowers.

Many cultivars of Oleander are available. 'Sister Agnes' is a large white-flowered form. 'Mrs. Roeding' grows to 6 feet and has double salmon-pink flowers. 'Casablanca' has single white flowers. 'Algiers' has single red flowers. 'Petite Pink' is a dwarf form growing to 3-5 feet high with pink flowers. 'Petite Salmon' also grows to 3-5 feet high and has salmon-pink flowers.



SA

RED BIRD OF PARADISE

CAESALPINIA PULCHERRIMA



DESCRIPTION: An attractive shrub native to the West Indies and naturalized in Sonora. Plants grow to 5-10 feet tall and wide with bold, tropical fern-like foliage.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Large terminal clusters of spectacular orange-red flowers during summer. Fruit is poisonous.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Freezes to the ground when temperatures reach the high 20's, but recovers quickly in spring. Requires moderate irrigation for optimum appearance. Will not recover as fast or bloom until summer rains begin unless supplemental irrigation is supplied, then grows rapidly and blooms early in summer.

MAINTENANCE: Prune to within a foot of ground surface in late winter; mulch roots in coldest areas.

COMMENTS: Excellent for summer color in mini-oasis and transition zones. Yellow Bird Of Paradise (*C. gilliesii*) is hardier, but less showy, more open and woodier. Large yellow flowers appear during the warm season. Mexican Bird Of Paradise (*C. mexicana*) is a large shrub or small tree to 15 feet tall and 10 feet wide. Clusters of bright yellow flowers appear from spring through fall. Foliage and small stems damaged when temperatures reach the low 20's.



RED SAGE

SALVIA GREGGII



DESCRIPTION: A small, evergreen shrub to 3 feet tall and wide. Native to the Chihuahuan desert region, this small shrub is an outstanding desert performer.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Brilliant scarlet flowers appear on spikes from

March through November, and attract hummingbirds. Other color forms may be white, peach, pink-purple, or dark red.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least mid-teens, and relatively drought tolerant once established. Provide occasional irrigation during summer for best appearance. Fast growth rate.

MAINTENANCE: Plants should be pruned occasionally to keep them dense and compact. For maximum flowering and best appearance, old flower spikes should be removed.

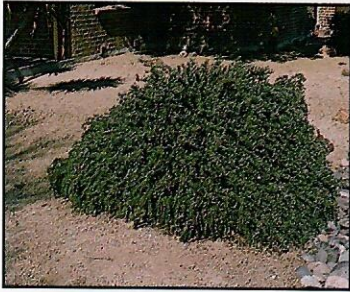
COMMENTS: This attractive small shrub can be used as a color accent in the mini-oasis and transition zones. Good as a low hedge and under trees with open, spreading canopies. Some related species include:

Blue Sage (*S. chamaedryoides*) with gray-green leaves and cobalt blue flowers during the warm season. *S. coccinea* is a 3 foot tall perennial with scarlet flowers throughout the warm season. Plants are showy when in bloom, freeze to the ground in winter and reseed freely. *S. clevelandii* and *S. leucophylla* are medium shrubs with violet flowers appearing mainly in spring. *S. dorrii* is a cold hardy, drought tolerant shrub with silvery gray foliage and blue flowers produced in clusters at branch tips in spring. Mealy Cup Sage (*S. farinacea*), a perennial with herbaceous stems that die back in winter, has rich green leaves and violet-blue flowers in summer and fall.



ROSEMARY

ROSMARINUS OFFICINALIS



DESCRIPTION: A Mediterranean native that grows to 4-6 feet high. Small, thin very fragrant needlelike evergreen leaves cover the plant to ground level. The species has

an upright to spreading form, and some varieties trail over walls.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Intense pale blue flowers appear from winter through spring and sometimes in fall.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Rosemary is hardy, except new growth produced in fall can be damaged by an early frost. Plants require regular watering until established, then they are drought resistant.

MAINTENANCE: When used in more formal landscapes, regular pruning is required.

COMMENTS: Use Rosemary as a winter accent in the mini-oasis or transition zone. Let it cascade over raised planters. Cultivars available include: 'Prostratus' which grows to 2 feet high and spreads to 6 feet or more. 'Lockwood de Forest' is low growing and wide spreading, with bluer flowers and lighter foliage than the others. 'Collingwood Ingram' spreads to 4 feet and has blue-violet flowers. 'Tuscan Blue' has rigid, upright branches to 5 feet high.



SJ



GM

TEXAS MOUNTAIN LAUREL

SOPHORA SECUNDIFLORA



GM

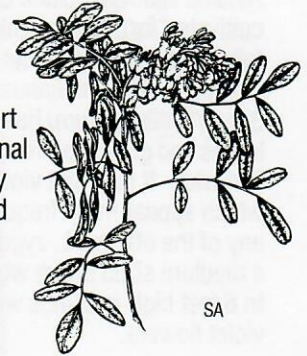
DESCRIPTION: A large, Chihuahuan Desert shrub which grows to 15 feet high, and 10 feet wide. It has a very dense crown of dark green, shiny leaves that extend to the ground, unless pruned.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: In the spring, numerous clusters of dark lavender, grape scented flowers appear at the ends of branches. These are followed by tan, woody seed pods that contain bright red seeds. Although poisonous, the fruit can be pruned off, and seeds are too hard to chew, thus posing little danger to children or pets. The fruit pods are an interesting ornamental feature against the dark foliage.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least mid-teens, and drought tolerant once established. Slow growing, but will respond to supplemental water.

MAINTENANCE: Plants may be grown as large shrubs or pruned into small trees. Mescal Bean, which is sometimes called Texas Mountain Laurel, is susceptible to a caterpillar which feeds on the leaves during summer and fall. The caterpillars can be controlled by spraying with a bacterial control available from nurseries.

COMMENTS: Lush looking desert plant that may be used for seasonal color in all Xeriscape zones. They may be planted singly or grouped as a formal hedge or an informal screen.



SA

TEXAS RANGER

LEUCOPHYLLUM FRUTESCENS



DESCRIPTION: A rounded, evergreen Chihuahuan Desert shrub to 8 feet or more high and wide. Soft gray-green foliage is dense in summer, thinning some in winter.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Spectacular rose-purple funnel shaped flowers appear in late summer and fall, usually after rains.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Shrubs are hardy to about 15 degrees, and drought tolerant once established. Plants are fast growing with supplemental watering, however, they can die from overwatering.

MAINTENANCE: With infrequent pruning plants achieve an informal, but thicker appearance. Prune regularly for a more formal appearance.

COMMENTS: Texas Ranger is quite versatile, blending with a variety of plants in all Xeriscape zones. There are three popular forms of *L. frutescens*. 'Compacta' grows to 3 feet high and wide. 'Green Cloud' grows to 8 feet high and wide and has green foliage. 'White Cloud' grows to 8 feet high and wide, and has gray foliage and white flowers. Related species include Silver Leaf Sage (*L. candidum*), a cultivated form called 'Silver Cloud'. It has silvery white foliage, grows to 4-5 feet high and wide, and has dark violet flowers. Chihuahuan Rain Sage (*L. laevigatum*) has green leaves and grows to 4 feet high and 5 feet wide. It has light violet flowers which appear more frequently than any of the others. *L. zygophyllum* is a medium sized shrub which grows to 6 feet high and wide with dark violet flowers.



WOOLY BUTTERFLY BUSH

BUDDLEIA MARRUBIIFOLIA



DESCRIPTION: A rounded Chihuahuan Desert shrub, 5 feet high and wide. Evergreen foliage that is small, whitish, densely pubescent and pleasant to the touch.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES:

The leaf color and small rounded clusters of bright yellow-orange flowers make this a unique landscape shrub.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Cold hardy to at least 15 degrees. Extremely drought tolerant once established. Moderate growth rate, but responds to supplemental water.

MAINTENANCE: Occasional pruning will help retain a dense form. No known insect problems, however rabbits may eat the stems.

COMMENTS: Shrubs are most dense when planted in full sun. They will become open and leggy when planted in even partial shade. Use singly or mass plant in transition and buffer zones.



YELLOW TRUMPET BUSH

TECOMA STANS VAR. *ANGUSTATA*

GM



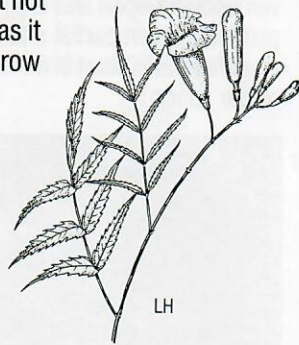
DESCRIPTION: A medium size, native shrub growing to 6 feet high and wide. A vigorous upright shrub, with bright green tropical-looking foliage.

ORNAMENTAL FEATURES: Large, showy yellow flowers appear on new growth in summer and fall. Flowers have a delicate fragrance.

COLD HARDINESS/WATER: Plants freeze when temperatures reach the mid-20's, but recover quickly. Moderate water use for optimum appearance. Fast growth rate once established.

MAINTENANCE: Stems need to be pruned in winter or spring after they have frozen back.

COMMENTS: Highly prized for the extremely showy flowers which attract hummingbirds. Use on the south side of walls as a color accent in combination with evergreen plants. A good plant for protected areas in the mini-oasis or transition zone. *T. stans* var. *stans* is a larger growing form with bigger leaves and flowers. This variety blooms prolifically in spring and fall, but not at all in summer. In warmer areas it can develop a strong trunk and grow to 10 feet or more high.



OTHER PLANTS TO LOOK FOR

There are other shrubs that are worth planting if they can be found for sale.

Desert Honeysuckle

(*Anisacanthus thurberi*) A medium to large shrub native to Arizona. Plants have an upright to spreading form: 6' high and 4' wide. Clusters of orange flowers appear in spring. Hardy and low water using. Moderate growth rate and minimal maintenance. Good in all Xeriscape zones.

Evergreen Sumac

(*Rhus choriophylla*) A large, native, evergreen shrub growing to 9 feet high. Moderate growth rate. Cold hardy, and low water use. Use as a hedge or background plant in the buffer zone.

Gopher Plant

(*Euphorbia biglandulosa*) A small shrub-like perennial. Individual stems die after flowering with new stems growing from the base. Greenish yellow flowers in fall. Cold hardy and low water use. Moderate growth rate. Use in the mini-oasis.

Pine-Leaf Milkweed

(*Asclepias linaria*) A small native shrub with stems woody at the base and herbaceous above. Plants grow to 3 feet high and wide, and have a rounded form. Thin, needle-like leaves, clusters of white flowers, and inflated fruit make this an attractive shrub. Flowers appear in summer, and attract butterflies. Cold hardy. Low water use. Moderate growth rate. Use in the mini-oasis and transition zone.

Wright's Bee Bush

(*Aloysia wrightii*) A medium size, native shrub with fragrant flowers. It grows to 5 feet high and wide. Plants are winter deciduous. Low water use once established. Moderate growth rate. Use in the transition zone and mini-oasis.

COMPARATIVE TABLE

Species	Size (ft)	Flower Color	Flower Season	Water	Hardy	Growth Rate	Page
<i>Atriplex nummularia</i>	6x9	NA	NA	Low	H-20	Fast	22
<i>Buddleia marrubiifolia</i>	5x5	Orange	Sum-Fall	Low	H-15	Mod.	29
<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	10x10	Orng-Red	Sum-Fall	Mod.	S-28	Fast	24
<i>C. gilliesii</i>	10x6	Yellow	Sum-Fall	Mod.	H-5	Mod.	24
<i>C. mexicana</i>	15x10	Yellow	Sum-Fall	Mod.	S-25	Fast	24
<i>Calliandra eriophylla</i>	3x3	Pink,White	Sum	Low	H-15	Mod.	16
<i>C. californica</i>	4x4	Red	Sum-Fall	Low	S-26	Mod.	16
<i>Cassia nemophila</i>	6x6	Yellow	Win-Spr	Low	H-20	Fast	15
<i>C. artemisioides</i>	6x6	Yellow	Win-Spr	Mod.	S-26	Fast	15
<i>C. phyllodinea</i>	6x6	Yellow	Win-Spr	Mod.	S-24	Fast	15
<i>Cordia parvifolia</i>	8x10	White	Spr-Sum	Low	H-18	Mod.	19
<i>C. boissieri</i>	15x15	White	Sum-Fall	Low	S-26	Mod.	19
<i>Dalea frutescens</i>	4x5	Purple	Sum-Fall	Low	H-15	Mod.	11
<i>D. bicolor v. argyrea</i>	3x3	Purple	Fall	Low	H-15	Mod.	11
<i>D. bicolor v. ocuttiana</i>	5x5	Purple	Fall-Spr	Low	S-28	Fast	11
<i>D. pulchra</i>	3x3	Purple	Winter	Low	H-15	Mod.	11
<i>D. versicolor</i>	3x4	Purple	Fall-Spr	Mod.	H-15	Fast	11
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	10x6	NA	NA	Low	S-25	Mod.	17
<i>D. v. 'Purpurea'</i>	10x6	NA	NA	Mod.	S-28	Mod.	17
<i>Encelia farinosa</i>	3x4	Yellow	Spring	Low	S-28	Fast	12

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Species	Size (ft)	Flower Color	Flower Season	Water	Hardy	Growth Rate	Page
<i>Justicia spicigera</i>	3x3	Orange	All	Mod.	S-22	Mod.	20
<i>J. californica</i>	4x4	Red	Spr-Fall	Mod.	S-26	Fast	20
<i>J. candicans</i>	3x3	Red	Sum-Fall	Mod.	S-26	Mod.	20
<i>Lantana camara</i>	6x6	Many	Spr-Fall	Low	S-28	Fast	13
<i>Larrea divaricata</i>	10x10	Yellow	Summer	Low	H-5	Slow	14
<i>Leucophyllum frutescens</i>	8x8	Purple	Sum-Fall	Low	H-10	Mod.	28
<i>L. candidum</i>	5x5	Violet	Sum-Fall	Low	H-20	Mod.	28
<i>L. laevigatum</i>	4x5	Lavender	Sum-Fall	Low	H-20	Mod.	28
<i>L. zygophyllum</i>	6x6	Blue	Sum-Fall	Low	H-20	Mod.	28
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	20x10	Many	Spr-Fall	Low	S-22	Fast	23
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	6x6	Blue	Win-Spr	Mod.	H-20	Mod.	26
<i>Salvia greggii</i>	3x3	Rose	Spr-Fall	Mod.	H-16	Fast	25
<i>S. chamaedryoides</i>	2x2	Blue	Sum-Fall	Mod.	H-16	Mod.	25
<i>S. clevelandii</i>	3x5	Violet	Spring	Low	H-16	Fast	25
<i>S. coccinea</i>	3x3	Scarlet	Spr-Fall	Mod.	S-28	Fast	25
<i>S. dorrii</i>	3x3	Blue	Spring	Low	H-16	Fast	25
<i>S. leucophylla</i>	3x3	Violet	Spring	Low	H-20	Fast	25
<i>S. farinacea</i>	2x2	Violet	Sum-Fall	Mod.	S-28	Fast	25
<i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>	6x6	NA	NA	Low	S-22	Slow	18
<i>Sophora secundiflora</i>	15x10	Purple	Spring	Low	H-15	Slow	27
<i>Tagetes lemmoni</i>	3x4	Yellow	Fall-Spr	Mod.	S-25	Fast	21
<i>Tecoma stans v. angustata</i>	6x6	Yellow	Sum-Fall	Mod.	S-25	Fast	30
<i>Vauquelinia californica</i>	12x9	White	Summer	Low	H-15	Slow	10

H-°F# - Hardy with frost damage usually evident at this temperature

S-°F# - Semi-hardy with frost damage usually evident at this temperature



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Separations: American Color
Printing: Arizona Lithographers
Printed on recycled paper



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