

Silver Leopard Manfreda

Manfreda 'Silver Leopard'

Size:

Up to 18" tall x 36" wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

0 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring

General: *Manfreda* 'Silver Leopard' is a stunning hybrid with fleshy, succulent, silver leaves with dark maroon spots. The silvery sheen of the foliage causes the spotting effect to be even more stunningly colorful. This colony-forming plant spreads by rhizomes. Tall, fast developing flower spikes occur early in the growing season displaying abundantly.

Designer: Makes a great accent plant, and looks terrific in pots. The silvery foliage contrasts well against dark mulch or groundcover.

Maintenance: Low. Transportation and planting often leave the foliage rather damaged, but plants recover fully. Treat once or twice per year for the agave borer weevil with Bayer Tree and Shrub Insecticide, Merit Insecticide, or equivalent (active ingredient: Imidacloprid). Treatment should occur in mid-April to mid-May. If a 2nd treatment is desired, it should occur in September. One treatment is believed to provide adequate protection, but the 2nd may be applied for added security. Agave borer weevil larvae can eat the root system of this plant and by the time the damage is noticeable, it is too late. The symptoms show as the outer leaves laying close to the ground while the center rosette of leaves stays upright, leaving a gap in between.

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Macho Mocha Mangave

Mangave 'Macho Mocha'

Size:

Up to 3' tall x 6' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

10 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Infrequent

General: *Manfreda* 'Macho Mocha' is a hybrid between an agave and a *Manfreda*. It has fleshy green leaves with wine purple speckling. Cold weather causes an even greater predominance of purple color. Delicate white flowers are borne on a long slender stalk, and unlike true agaves, a flowering event does not cause the death of the plant.

Designer: Makes a great accent plant and looks terrific in pots. The onset of more purple in cold weather makes it an outstanding candidate for adding color and interest to a winter garden

Maintenance: Low. Transportation and planting often leave the foliage rather damaged, but plants recover fully. Treat once or twice per year for the agave borer weevil with Bayer Tree and Shrub Insecticide, Merit Insecticide, or equivalent (active ingredient: Imidacloprid). Treatment should occur in mid-April to mid-May. If a 2nd treatment is desired, it should occur in September. One treatment is believed to provide adequate protection, but the 2nd may be applied for added security. Agave borer weevil larvae can eat the root system of this plant and by the time the damage is noticeable, it is too late. The symptoms show as the outer leaves laying close to the ground while the center rosette of leaves stays upright, leaving a gap in between.

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Twisted Myrtle

Myrtus communis 'Boetica'

Size:

Up to 15' tall x 15' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

15 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring

General: Twisted Myrtle can be trained as a small tree or shrub, depending on how it is pruned. It is stunningly beautiful both in its rich green foliage color and the twisted form of the plant. Branches develop an interesting zigzag pattern when young. Flowers are small, delicate, and snow white with dozens of little stamen emerging from the center. After flowering, blueberry-like seeds with hard centers appear on the plant. When exposed, Twisted Myrtle develops an interesting gnarled and mottled trunk. If brushed, the foliage has a very fresh, clean fragrance.

Designer: Twisted Myrtle makes a great accent plant with exceptional and interesting form. Growth is relatively slow, so it can be pruned to fit almost any space, including a large container. It produces very little leaf litter or other debris, so is a good choice for around a pool.

Maintenance: Prune to expose sculptural form. We have never seen this plant exhibit any pest or disease problems. It is very tolerant of a wide range of exposures, soil types and irrigation.

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Pine Cone Cactus

Opuntia turpinii

Size:

Up to 1-2' tall x 2-3' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Partial shade

Hardiness:

15 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Summer

General: *Opuntia turpinii* is a distinctly shaped, low-growing, jointed cactus. The unique appendages of this cactus are greenish-brown cylindrical limbs that bear strong resemblance to young pine cones. Pads can grow 4" to 6" in length and may harbor an occasional glochid, or tiny, finely barbed, hair-like spine. In summer, 2" white to pale pink flowers bloom at the tips of many of the joints.

Designer: Makes a nice addition in a rock garden, in containers, or intermingled with small leafy perennials. The bold and unusual form of this plant has a very strong architectural effect, while its small size makes it a great addition in more intimate garden settings.

Maintenance: None required. If a "cone" falls off, let it rest for a week in the shade, then plant it by placing its bottom end 2-3" below soil surface. Often, these little "stems" will propagate themselves and start a new plant on their own. This plant is reputed to be affected by spider mites! This is not common, but can occur and will cause scarring. Points of detachment sometimes also scar.

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Black Flowering Fountain Grass

Pennisetum alopecuroides 'Moudry'

Size:

2 1/2' tall x 2 1/2' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Deciduous

Water Needs:

Moderate

Exposure:

Full sun to moderate shade

Hardiness:

0 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Fall

General: Like many grasses, this plant produces a “fountain” of colorful plumes. The autumnal flower show is spectacular, with individual flowers exhibiting maroon and green, with splashes of golden pollen. When back-lit by the sun or landscape lighting, they have an amazing and eye-catching glow. Foliage is rich medium-green.

Designer: This is a good addition to a sloped garden. It can be used as a single species, in a mass planting, or as a border planting along a walkway or drive. Dried plumes are attractive in floral arrangements. The soft texture of foliage and bloom contrasts well against succulents or woody plants. Flexible foliage brings the element of movement into the garden when the breeze blows.

Maintenance: Cut back in late winter or early spring by cutting horizontally about 3 inches above soil surface. This plant does reseed itself occasionally, but not excessively.

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Pomegranate

Punica granatum

Size:

16'-26' tall x 12-16' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Deciduous

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

15 degrees F. if dormant

Bloom Period:

Summer

General: Pomegranate is a traditional fruit tree or shrub well-suited for desert climates with low humidity, cool winters, and hot summers. The form of Pomegranate combines both upright growths with arching and weeping branches. Leaves are a bright shade of green, but start with a bronze hue in the spring and finish the autumn showing bright yellow that radiates in the setting sun. Flowers are showy, tubular, and deep red-orange.

Designer: The pomegranate is a very attractive shrub or small tree for the home landscape. Its form and the wide range of colors and textures produced through leaves, flowers and fruit make Pomegranate a great addition to any landscape. It is responsive to good, proactive pruning, allowing it to fit almost any space, including narrow spaces and even espaliering.

Maintenance: Low. As with all trees, should be pruned well and thoughtfully. Trunk position and spacing should be determined in youth, and all suckers should be cleanly removed, preferably while young. New suckers can be removed by rubbing them off if done so **when they're very young**. Fruit can be attacked by leaf-footed bug, a piercing-sucking type of insect, which leaves fruit rotting. Fruit can be protected by covering with paper bags.

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Golden Dyssodia

Thymophylla pentacheata

Size:

6" to 1' tall x 1' to 2' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Semi-Deciduous

Water Needs:

Very low

Exposure:

Full sun

Hardiness:

0 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring –Fall, sometimes Winter

General: This little perennial blooms spring to fall with masses of tiny, golden, daisy-like flowers. Although individual plants are relatively short-lived (just 2-4 years), it reseeds itself quite easily, but can be easily removed and thus never becomes a weed problem. Its finely divided foliage is a bright green, and smells wonderful when touched.

Designer: It is an excellent plant for butterfly gardens, as it attracts adult butterflies and provides food and nectar for larvae. Its ability to reseed allows it to appear in unexpected locations, including areas without irrigation. Looks great as a secondary under-planting against larger, bold plants such as Agaves. **Plants that don't receive** irrigation sometimes bloom all winter.

Maintenance: It gets a bit ragged looking in winter, but can be sheared or cut back in early spring.

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San Pedro Cactus

Trichocereus pachanoi

Size:

6-8' tall x 3-6' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full to part sun

Hardiness:

15 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Late Spring

General: San Pedro cactus is a fast-growing, columnar, night-blooming cactus native to the mountains of Ecuador and Peru. Flowers are large, white, and stunning (however they do not last long, up to two days). Small spines are present approximately every inch along the margins. The San Pedro produces many offsets from its base and stems, creating a cluster of upright statuesque arms.

Designer: This is an excellent large container plant, and offers good architectural relief against walls and pillars. With pruning, it can be maintained in a narrow space if desired. If planted with too much sun and cold wind exposure the San Pedro will turn a sallow yellow.

Maintenance: None required. Strong winds can cause breakage of particularly tall stems. If this occurs, one to three new stems emerge at the break point. Old, broken stems can be replanted if allowed to sit dry 1-2 weeks before replanting. Replant by burying 4-6" of stem in the ground.

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Arizona Rosewood

Vauquelinia californica

Size:

15' tall x 10' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun, partial shade

Hardiness:

-10 degrees F.

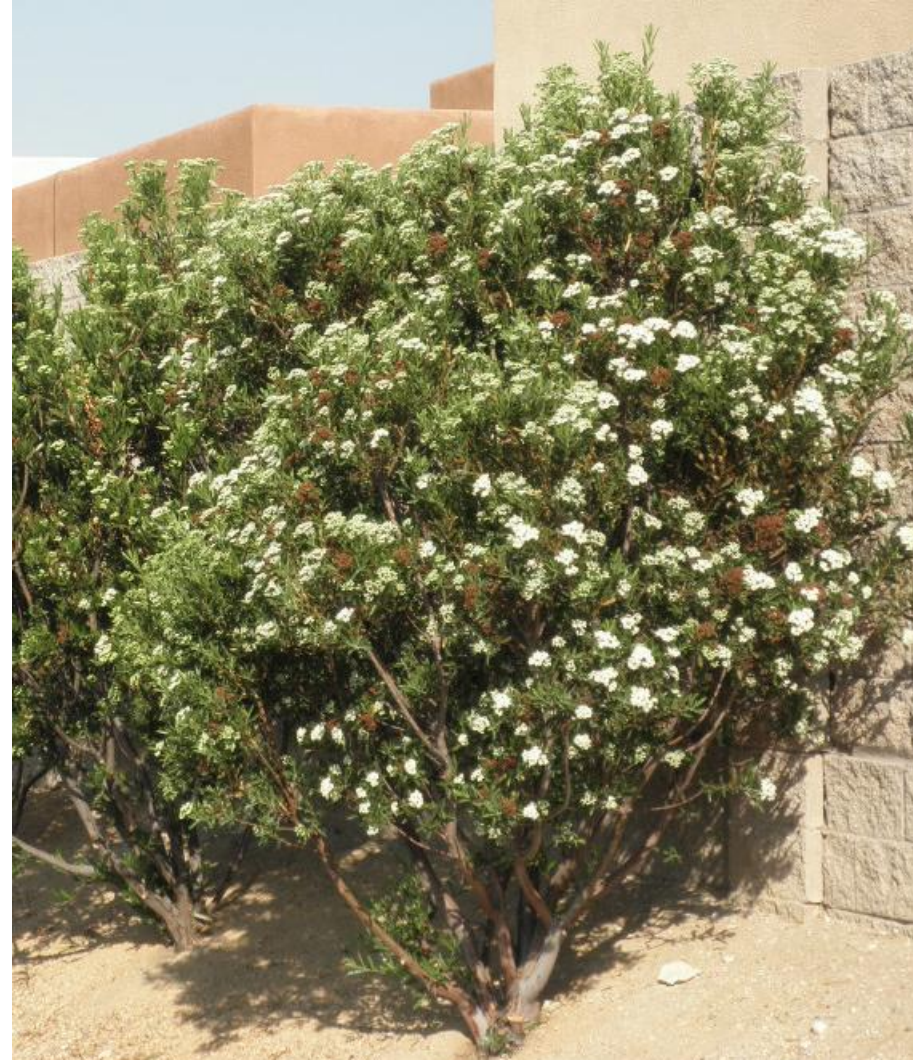
Bloom Period:

Spring

General: This slow-growing small tree or large shrub has 4" leaves with toothed margins, dark green on the top and paler gray on the underside. Creamy white flower clusters in the spring give way to woody seed pods that last throughout the year.

Designer: The contrast of the dark green foliage against the silver trunk is a stunning characteristic of this tree. Its dense canopy and evergreen nature, along with its size, makes this tree an excellent choice for screening the edges of a property, especially where there are adjoining two-story buildings. This is a low-litter tree.

Maintenance: Can be grown as a large shrub, or single or multi-trunked tree. As with all trees, it should always be pruned thoughtfully. No pest or disease problems have been noted or observed.

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