

Quadricolor Century Plant

Agave lophantha 'Quadricolor'

Size:

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

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun or shade

Hardiness:

20-25 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Infrequent

General: A very distinctive and attractive small agave featuring 6 to 8 inch long dark green leaves edged with yellow and a pale green mid-stripe. The yellow marginal stripe, highlighted by dark reddish teeth, flushes red when grown in bright light to give the leaf four distinct colors.

Designer: A gorgeous accent plant in the garden. Plant in full sun to bright filtered light (best sheltered from full summer sun in hot climates) in a well drained soil. Tolerates dry conditions but will grow much faster with regular summer irrigation.

Maintenance: Low. 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.

**Schilling Horticulture Group, Inc.**

3433 Losee Rd. Ste 4
Las Vegas, NV 89030

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www.schillinghorticulture.com

Queen Victoria Agave

Agave victoriae-reginae

Size:

Up to 18" tall x 18" wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun

Hardiness:

10 degrees F.

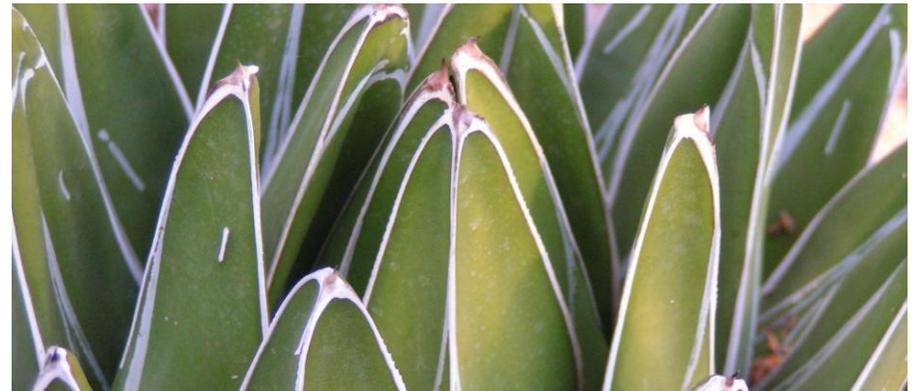
Bloom Period:

Infrequent, Summer

General: Queen Victoria Agave features a dense, compact form, and beautiful white markings on both sides of the leaves. Leaves are toothless, but have a sharp terminal spine. Flowers are reddish-purple, and are densely packed on an unbranched spike reaching 15 feet in height.

Designer: Its compact size and ornamental appeal make it an ideal candidate for decorative containers. In the ground, it looks best planted in cactus and succulent gardens, or nestled among large boulders. Avoid planting it too close to large shrubs that could obscure its beauty.

Maintenance: Low. 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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Variegated Weber's Agave

Agave weberi 'Arizona Star'

Size:

Up to 4-5' tall x 6-8' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

10-15 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Once at end of lifespan

General: *Agave weberi* 'Arizona Star' is a medium-sized, rosette-forming succulent. It is stunning, with fleshy, spine-tipped blue-green leaves that have wide pale yellow stripes along the nearly spineless margins.

Designer: Though similar in size and appearance, Weber's Agave offers a more upright form than the popular *Agave americana*, or Century Plant. Variegated Weber's Agave makes a superb accent plant in any xeriscape garden.

Maintenance: Low. Yellowing of the foliage may indicate heat stress and a need for more water. 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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Medicinal Aloe

Aloe barbadensis or *Aloe vera*

Size:

Up to 2' tall x 3' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Moderate

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

25 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Late Winter to Summer

General: Native to the Mediterranean region, Medicinal Aloe is a slow to moderate grower. It gradually forms a rosette of fleshy gray green leaves reaching 1' to 2' long. Leaves are narrow, succulent and erect with soft spines on the margins. Yellow flower spikes (2-3 foot-tall) appear from late winter to summer and attract hummingbirds to the garden. As the plants mature they are capable of forming large clumps. The sap is often used for burns and abrasions, hence the common name. *Aloe barbadensis* will tolerate full to partial shade, but requires a gradual change from shade to sun to look its best.

Designer: *Aloe barbadensis* finds a home in almost any xeriscape garden, medicinal garden, or hummingbird garden. Its fleshy leaves can soften some of the harsher succulents, or adds some more dimension to a perennial garden.

Maintenance: Low. Good drainage is essential. Remove spent flower stalks. Provide supplemental water in the summer months.

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Golden Columbine

Aquilegia chrysantha

Size:

Up to 3' tall x 3' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Semi-Evergreen

Water Needs:

Moderate to ample

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

-30 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring and Fall, occasionally in the Summer

General: Golden Columbine is a herbaceous perennial native along streams and canyons in the southwestern United States, most often found growing in rich, moist soil. The leaves are a rich green color, and have three leaflets with three lobes. The undersides of the leaflets are densely covered with soft hairs. Class columbine-shaped yellow flowers grow on long stems above the leaves, attracting hummingbirds. This plant is biennial, which means it blooms the second year of its life cycle.

Designer: Golden Columbine is a very showy species, best-suited for a shady exposure with ample water. Use for ornamental purposes in xeriscape or natural landscape setting.

Maintenance: Low. Remove spent flower stalks.

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Woolly Butterfly Bush

Buddleja marrubifolia

Size:

5' tall x 5' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun or light shade

Hardiness:

10 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Intermittent throughout the year, heaviest in Spring and Summer

General: The soft, silvery foliage has a bluish hue and helps liven up winter landscapes. Orange marble-sized flowers can be produced almost year round with the heaviest flowering occurring in spring and summer. This plant has a remarkable ability to attract butterflies into the landscape.

Designer: Combine this rounded evergreen shrub with green leafed plants for an interesting contrast. Great as a backdrop against walls, or well positioned near patios, windows and entryways to take full advantage of its butterfly-magnet quality.

Maintenance: Grows to 5 feet tall with a dense form requiring little maintenance if given room to grow.

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Mexican Bird of Paradise

Caesalpinia mexicana

Size:

Up to 15' tall x 15' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Semi-Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun, reflected heat

Hardiness:

18 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring – Summer

General: Mexican Bird of Paradise is a large thornless shrub or small tree. It is especially striking in the warmer months when its dark green, fern-like foliage provides a backdrop for the bright yellow flower spikes erupting from the tips of its woody branches. Woody seed pods follow blooms. It will remain evergreen in warmer climates, but will shed foliage if frost occurs. Though it does look similar to *C. pulcherrima*, it can be differentiated by flower color and leaf texture.

Designer: This native to northern Mexico and Texas does well in our desert environment and makes a colorful addition to any landscape. Mexican Bird of Paradise tolerates direct sun exposure and is well-suited as a screen or background plant in a drought tolerant landscape.

Maintenance: Low. Can be trained into a small tree if desired. Although extremely tolerant of sun and reflected heat, it requires good drainage to thrive.



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Madame Galen Trumpet Vine

Campsis x tagliabuana 'Madame Galen'

Size:

15-25' tall x 6-12' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Deciduous

Water Needs:

Low to moderate

Exposure:

Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:

0 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring – Summer

General: Madame Galen is a mid-century hybrid between *Campsis radicans* and *Campsis grandiflora*. It is a deciduous, woody, clinging vine with a 6-month show of masses of trumpet-like flowers in a variety of shades of red, orange or yellow. The flowers attract butterflies, bees, birds, and hummingbirds with their nectar. Large seed pods reminiscent of small bananas follow flowers and persist on the vine until they dry and split. Spent flowers fall off, creating some litter.

Designer: Trumpet Creeper should be used on a trellis or trained to climb. Creates particular interest on the lengthy and stark trunks of palm trees. *Campsis x tagliabuana* 'Madam Galen' has larger, redder flowers than *Campsis radicans*.

Maintenance: Low. Prune as needed if growth hangs or occurs where not desired. Remove seed pods before they split and release seeds to prevent volunteer seedlings. Can be pruned hard in winter if desired, or one can wait to see where new growth will occur.

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Sonoran Emerald Palo Verde

Cercidium X 'Sonoran Emerald'

Size:

25-30' tall x 25-30' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Semi- Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun

Hardiness:

18-22 degrees F.

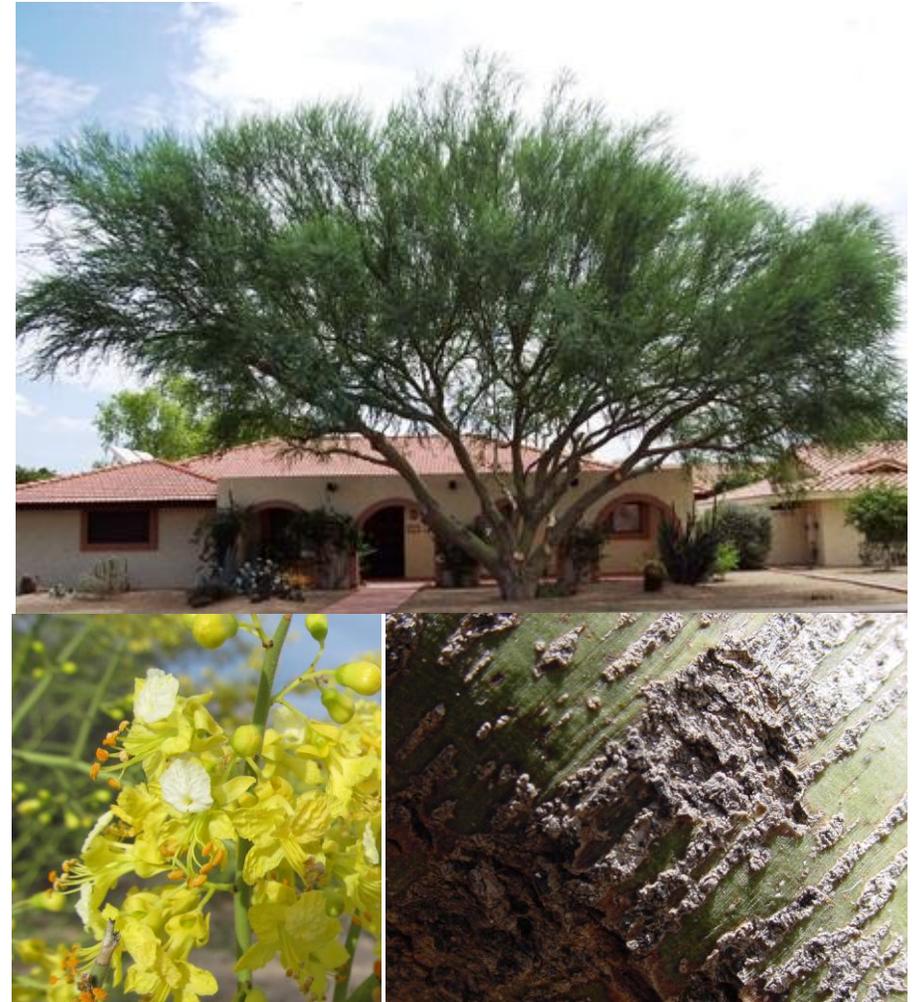
Bloom Period:

Spring; intermittent throughout year

General: This tree is the replacement for the Desert Museum Palo Verde. It is thought to be a better selection due to more vigorous and stable root development. The Sonoran Emerald is denser than its hybrid cousin. It is the product of years of cross hybridization by Arizona Wholesale Growers.

Designer: Deep green foliage, blue-green bark, and showy yellow flowers make this desert tree a gorgeous addition to any xeriscape landscape. This thornless tree provides dappled shade, allowing some light penetration to under plantings. The hybrid Palo Verdes are less messy than the non-hybrids, especially the Mexican Palo Verde.

Maintenance: Due to its high wind tolerance, annual crown thinning is believed to not be required. Very low maintenance tree, as it produces minimal leaf litter and is non-fruiting. As with all true desert trees, after initial establishment, irrigation frequency should be reduced and emitters provided at the base of the tree should be removed. Good structural pruning in youth helps reduce maintenance and problems in later years.

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