

Golden Dalea

Dalea capitata Sierra Gold™

Size:

8-12" tall x 3-5' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Semi-Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun, reflected heat

Hardiness:

0 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring and Fall

General: *Dalea capitata* Sierra Gold™ is a cold-hardy, durable and attractive groundcover. Foliage is bright green and fine textured, and smells of lemons when crushed or handled. Leaflets are tiny and contribute to the very soft visual effect of this plant. Blooms are light yellow and form clusters on short yet dense spikes in the spring and fall.

Designer: Can be used singly or massed together to cover large areas. It is very attractive when grown between boulders or bold, fleshy desert plants such as agaves. Its compact size and ability to tolerate reflected heat makes Sierra Gold™ a good choice for narrow planters along walkways and in street medians. Flowers have interesting form, but the real beauty of this plant is in its beautiful, soft, semi-evergreen foliage.

Maintenance: Very low. Shear in the winter or early spring. Susceptible to whiteflies. Performs poorly in full shade.



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Sacred Datura

Datura wrightii

Size:
Up to 3-4' tall x 3-5' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:
Deciduous

Water Needs:
Low to moderate

Exposure:
Full sun to partial shade

Hardiness:
10 degrees F.

Bloom Period:
Summer

General: Large, trumpet-shaped, white blossoms protrude from coarse, slightly pubescent foliage of this stout, branched, annual desert plant during the summer months. These stunning blooms often appear wilted in the mid-afternoon, but perk up again in the evening. All parts of the plant are toxic to humans and animals.

Designer: Dormant during the cold months, Sacred Datura makes a dramatic addition to the garden from spring to fall, though its primary bloom season occurs in the summer months. Use Datura for a naturalizing effect, as an accent plant, or in mass plantings.

Maintenance: Low. This plant self-seeds readily; if unwanted plants appear, simply remove them before they reach maturity. Flea beetles and other insects may chew tiny holes in the leaves.



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Silverberry

Elaeagnus ebbingei

Size:
Up to 6-10' tall x 6-10' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:
Evergreen

Water Needs:
Low

Exposure:
Partial sun to partial shade

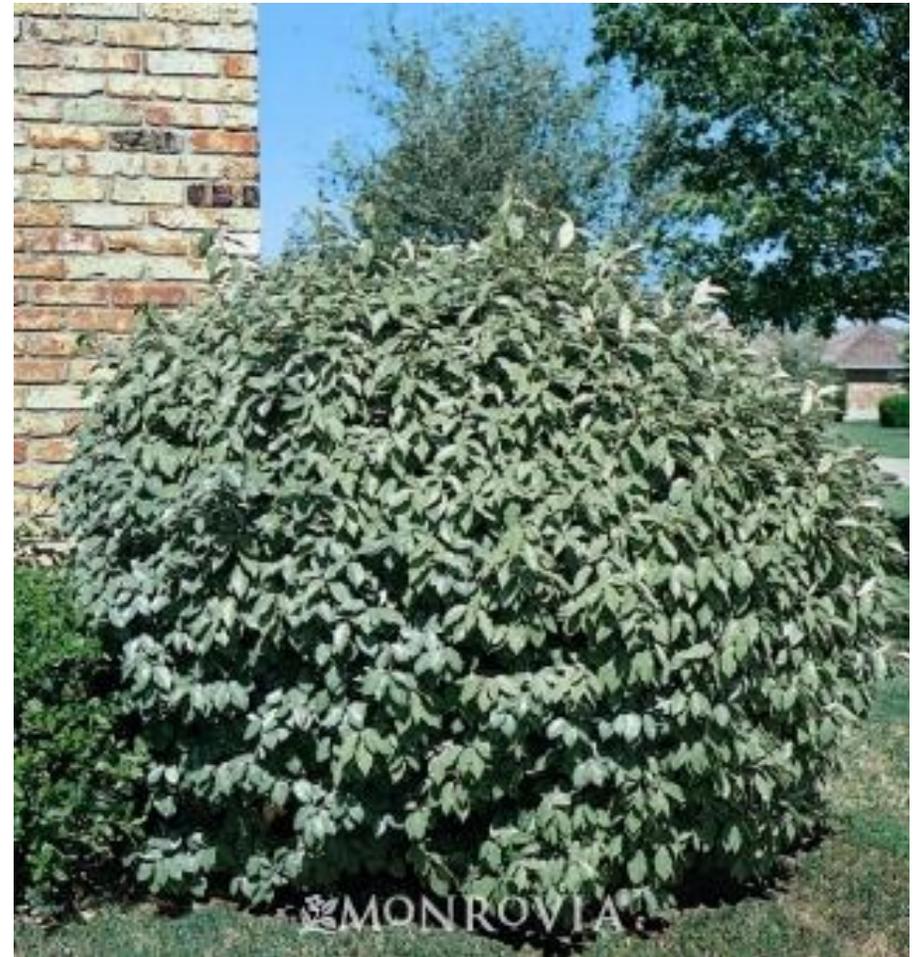
Hardiness:
10 degrees F.

Bloom Period:
Fall

General: Silverberry is a large, tough, evergreen, dense shrub. Angular branches bear large ovate leaves. The foliage's new growth is silvery, later maturing to an olive green color dotted with silver scales on the upper surface and solid silver dotted with brown scales beneath. Leaf margins are wavy. Blooms are fragrant, small, creamy-white flowers borne in clusters appearing in the fall, followed by a brownish red fruit.

Designer: This large evergreen shrub makes a great large screen, barrier, wind break, border or hedge plant in the garden. The foliage is useful in fall flower arrangements.

Maintenance: Low. If given room to grow, little or no pruning is needed. No pest or disease problems have been seen or noted. Prune to desired size and shape.



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Fig Tree

Ficus carica

Size:

15-30' tall x 15-40' wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Deciduous

Water Needs:

Low

Exposure:

Full sun

Hardiness:

15 degrees F. when dormant

Bloom Period:

Spring and Fall

General: Figs are native to the arid areas of Asia minor and have long been grown in desert climates and cultures. Once established they can be very drought tolerant, but look and fruit better with deep, infrequent irrigation. Leaves are large and lobed with beautiful texture, shape and venation. Small, insignificant flowers are produced both in spring and fall, and can produce multiple crops of figs.

Designer: Beautiful silver bark and strong form make this an excellent large landscape tree. Form, leaf shape and color make figs exceptionally beautiful specimen trees. Popular cultivars in our area include 'Brown Turkey,' 'Kadota,' 'Black Mission,' and 'Adriatic.' Size of the tree and frequency and flavor of fruit varies with different cultivars.

Maintenance: Low. As with all trees, should be pruned thoughtfully and carefully to develop and maintain good structure. Fruit can be messy if not harvested, which becomes more difficult as the tree matures. Produces leaf litter in fall.

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Arizona Sun Blanket Flower

Gaillardia grandiflora 'Arizona Sun'

Size:

Up to 8-10" tall x 10-12" wide

Evergreen/Deciduous:

Evergreen

Water Needs:

Low to moderate

Exposure:

Full sun

Hardiness:

-30 degrees F.

Bloom Period:

Spring, Summer, Fall

General: Arizona Sun Blanket Flower thrives in dry hot climates. It is a low growing perennial with stunning flowers that begin in spring, last all summer and finally stop in November or December. Pinwheel blooms boast a reddish central disk surrounded by red petals dipped in golden yellow. The flowers are spectacular!

Designer: The rich green foliage and colorful flowers make a wonderful contrast to more succulent desert plants such as Agave and cactus. The long flowering season makes this plant a real eye-catcher for much of the year.

Maintenance: Low. If plants become leggy, they may be cut back to rosettes of tighter, cleaner growth at any time, however this is usually only needed once a year, towards or at the end of their flowering season. Old flowers may be deadheaded if desired. Will produce offspring if allowed to go to seed. Seedlings can be relatively easily transplanted in cooler weather.

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