



ARIZONA-SONORA  
DESERT  
MUSEUM

## ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Desert Hackberry or Garambullo

*Celtis pallida*

**DESCRIPTION:** Desert Hackberry is a common woody shrub in washes and canyons throughout much of the Sonoran Desert and adjacent biomes. The growth form is a densely branched, thorny mound up to 8' tall by 12' across. Flowers are insignificant to look at, but attract a number of insects. Blooming occurs from mid-summer until early fall. Edible fruit are small, orange berries, attractive to many bird species. The leaves are a food source for the caterpillars of the Hackberry Empress butterfly as well as the Snout butterfly. The Empress adults may feed on sap and rotting fruit in preference to flowers.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Use as a barrier plant, in a xeriscape or an enhanced desert revegetation, or to attract animals.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** It is frost hardy to at least 10°F.



**Sun tolerance:** This plant thrives in full sun or light shade. Too much shade promotes leggy growth.



**Watering and feeding:** Once established, Desert Hackberry can be weaned from irrigation, but will always perform better with supplemental water. Feeding is not necessary.



**Soil requirements:** Any soil will do.



**Pruning:** Allowing for ultimate size when planting eliminates the need for most pruning.