



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### **Bush Verbena** *Citharexylum flabellifolium*

**DESCRIPTION:** A loosely branched shrub with stiff, angular stems, to about six feet tall and wide. The stems are clothed with fuzzy, dark green leaves with purple highlights. It is in the same family as *Verbena*, and the flowers resemble larger versions of those found on Gooddings Verbena. It flowers profusely throughout much of the growing season with 1/2" wide lavender blooms along the stems. The long blooming season and the numerous butterflies attracted to it make this a rewarding plant to grow. It is native to the coast of Sonora, from Kino Bay, south, and a few spots in Baja California Sur. **A Desert Museum plant introduction for 1997.**

#### **CULTURE:**



**Hardiness:** It is somewhat frost tender, suffering damage as low temperatures dip below 28<sup>0</sup>F. Grow it against a protected south-facing wall or boulder, or keep it in a container that can be moved indoors during freezing weather if you live in a colder section of Tucson.



**Sun tolerance:** This plant thrives even in the hottest, sunniest locations.



**Watering and feeding:** It can survive months without water after established, but requires irrigation to maintain leaves and flowers.



**Soil requirements:** Any soil is suitable.



**Pruning:** Wand-like growth may need occasional pruning to maintain control.