



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Canyon Hackberry or Gumbro

Celtis reticulata

DESCRIPTION: The Canyon Hackberry is a common tree along streams and where there is subsurface water. It can be found throughout the southwest, and down into Mexico. Insignificant flowers in the early summer are followed by small, red berries (August through November). With age, interesting corky knobs and ridges appear on the trunk. Growth rate is slow at first; then moderate. It can reach 30 feet tall or more, but will take decades to do so. Foliage is fed upon by the caterpillars of Hackberry and Snout butterflies.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use around a large patio or as a landscape tree. There is enough medium shade under it to grow sun-sensitive plants. Use it to shelter a cactus garden or sun-sensitive veggies such as tomatoes, peppers, or strawberries.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Fully hardy around Tucson (to -20°F).



Sun tolerance: Full sun to light shade is necessary to promote healthy growth and good form.



Watering and feeding: It has moderate water needs, best accomplished by deep waterings during the growing season. Fertilize with a complete plant food twice a year.



Soil requirements: Does well in any soil, with the exception of surface caliche, where it may struggle.



Pruning: It produces wild, whip-like growth as a young tree, and may require pruning several times a year at first.

-Pests: The species has a tendency to harbor insects which form small twisted growths on the leaves. Take these off during general pruning.