ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM
PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Starleaf Mexican Orange
Choisya dumosa

DESCRIPTION: Starleaf Mexican orange grows in sandy and rocky slopes in the Trans-Pecos into New Mexico and Arizona, south through most of Mexico. It is a rounded low shrub with fine-textured, aromatic, evergreen foliage. Flowers are white, very fragrant, and long-blooming; appear from spring to fall. It is extremely heat and drought tolerant and cold hardy. Starleaf Mexican orange's many favorable characteristics make it a desirable landscape ornamental. It is in the citrus family and is a favored larval plant of Swallowtail butterflies.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use as a low screen, barrier, or ground cover where its fragrance can be enjoyed.

CULTURE:

- **Hardiness**: Down to 0°F.
- **Sun tolerance**: Full sun to very light shade.
- **Watering and feeding**: Drought tolerant once established, but appreciates regular water. No fertilization needed except in kept in a container.
- **Soil requirements**: To thrive it needs extremely well-drained, mineral soil.
- **Pruning**: Seldom needed.