



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### **Black Dalea** *Dalea frutescens*

**DESCRIPTION:** A spreading evergreen Chihuahuan Desert shrub to 4 feet tall and 5 feet wide. The silvery-green leaves make a good background for masses of small bright rose-purple flowers in late summer and fall. Plants are open and airy unless heavily pruned. Southern Dogface butterflies lay their eggs upon Black Dalea.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** A good shrub for transitional and arid xeriscape zones.

#### **CULTURE:**



**Hardiness:** Hardy to at least 15° F.



**Sun tolerance:** Best in full sun.



conditions.

**Watering and feeding:** Drought tolerant, but leaves are sparse under dry

Twice-monthly watering makes the best specimens. Feed sparingly if at all or growth may become rampant.



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**Soil requirements:** Not particular, except very heavy clays that don't drain should be avoided.



**Pruning:** Occasional pruning results in more compact plants with denser foliage. Do not prune after early summer or flowers may be sacrificed.