



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Bidwill's Coral Bean

Erythrina × bidwillii

DESCRIPTION: This close relative of our regional coral bean is a cross between *Erythrina crista-galli* (from South America) and *E. herbacea* (from southeastern U.S. and Mexico). It is classified as a woody-based perennial herb, growing to 6' or more in a season, but going deciduous and often losing most of its twiggy growth in the winter. The flowers are a spectacular deep red, occurring in clusters throughout the growing season. It makes a wonderful hummingbird attracting plant.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use this plant as an accent, for its color, in the ground or in a patio container.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: It seems to be hardy to the mid 20's, but will die back to large wood. It regrows very quickly in the spring. Protecting the base of the plant during severe freezes will ensure its survival.



Sun tolerance: Does well in light shade. May be water consumptive in full sun.



Watering and feeding: Moderate water use. Feed monthly during growing season.



Soil requirements: Any soil that drains.



Pruning: Prune back dead wood in late March, after the chance of frost, but before regrowth begins.