San Juanico
Jacquinia macrocarpa var. pungens

DESCRIPTION: San Juanico is a dense shrub rarely found in horticulture. It originates from thorn scrub and tropical deciduous forest habitats in northern Mexico. Be especially careful around San Juanico. The plant looks harmless from a distance, but the narrow evergreen leaves possess needle-like tips. The small flowers of San Juanico are both beautiful and perplexing. At first glance, there appear to be ten tangerine-colored petals, but experts tell us that only five are petal lobes. The five smaller ones are stamens. If pollinated, the plant forms marble-sized fruit.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use as an accent, specimen, for its dense form, colorful flowers, a screen or as a barrier. Be sure to plant away from paths.

CULTURE:

Hardiness: Winter hardy into the upper 20’s. Prolonged temperatures below that will result in anything from leaf burn to stem death.

Sun tolerance: Full sun to light, all-day shade.

Watering and feeding: Moderate water use. Yearly fertilization is appreciated.

Soil requirements: Most soils are fine.

Pruning: Lightly, as needed to control.