



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Coral Fountain

Russelia equisetifolia

DESCRIPTION: This native of Mexico has naturalized in the West Indies, Florida, and other tropical locations. It has scale-like leaves on bright green stems. New growth starts erect but rapidly bends over to form a graceful mound to several feet. In full sun the stems and leaves can take on a reddish tint. Tubular coral-red flowers weigh down the branches in the warm months. The flowers attract hummingbirds. This species is grows naturally from Mexico south to Guatemala. Another common name for this plant is Firecracker Plant. There is a paler pink form called 'Flamingo Park'.

RECOMMENDED USE: Great for a large pot or used spilling over a wall. Can be trained up a trellis to make a taller more vertical plant and is an excellent plant for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to the garden.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: To the low 20's°F but can resprout from the base after a freeze.



Sun tolerance: It grows well in full sun to medium shade exposures,



Watering and feeding: is notably salt tolerant, and handles low to high water applications, but does requires fairly regular irrigation to look its best. Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Fertilize regularly.



Soil requirements: Provide rich, well-drained soil



Pruning: Prune in late winter or early spring.