ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM
PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Lemmon Sage
Salvia lemmonii

DESCRIPTION: Lemmon Sage is a small twiggy shrub growing to around 3’ by 3’. Leaves are lightly aromatic; some say minty, others citrus. Reddish-pink tubular flowers can occur from spring to fall. They are a favorite of hummingbirds, but bees and butterflies go to it also. It is valued for its adaptability to garden soils and its very long blooming season. Lemmon Sage is native to the mountains of southern Arizona, south to Durango, Mexico.

RECOMMENDED USE: A beautiful source of color in any garden. Great for attracting wildlife. Can be kept in a large patio container.

CULTURE:

- **Hardiness:** It is hardy to at least 10º F

- **Sun tolerance:** Will grow in full sun or shade. In sun will flower from spring through fall. In shade will flower in spring and then again in fall.

- **Watering and feeding:** Moderate water to establish. Can be kept on low water regime, but blooms better with regular irrigation. Nitrogen fertilization helps to carry plants through the summer heat.

- **Soil requirements:** Most soils are adequate.

- **Pruning:** In a garden setting, prune back to 4 inches in late winter and again by one half in August to maintain a tidy shape, or allow to grow and spread or sprawl for a more natural appearance, with occasional pruning of old wood. Pruning off spent flower spikes may encourage additional flowering.