Skullcap
*Scutellaria potosina var. tesselata*

**DESCRIPTION:** Skullcap, also known as *Scutellaria tesselata*, is an attractive native herbaceous perennial. Stems grow from a woody base. Small oval, evergreen leaf blades often get a purplish hue when stressed. Stems are covered with small violet flowers from August through October in habitat, but can start much earlier in cultivation. Blooms are visited by a variety of butterflies. Skullcap can be found on rocky slopes and in canyons in Southern New Mexico, Arizona, and northern Mexico.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Best used up close in a small garden, mini-oasis, or in a container or hanging pot.

**CULTURE:**
- **Hardiness:** At least down to 18 F.
- **Sun tolerance:** Best in light shade, but can tolerate moderate all-day shade
- **Watering and feeding:** Moderate water use. Fertilize monthly spring through summer.
- **Soil requirements:** Best in rich, loose, sandy soils.
- **Pruning:** Can be cut back if growth is spindly.