Mexican Tarragon or Yerbanís
Tagetes lucida

DESCRIPTION: This delightful montane shrub has aromatic leaves. It blooms with abundant yellow flowers through the late fall and early winter months. It is a fast growing, broadleaf perennial. It derives its name from the licorice-scented simple leaves, which may be used in tea. The species grows to two feet tall and wide (occasionally 3’-4’).

RECOMMENDED USE: Plant in the transition zone of moderate water use plants.

CULTURE:

- **Hardiness**: Foliage is tender below 25°F, but roots can survive to near 10°F. It will recover quickly in the spring. Frost terminates flowering.

- **Sun tolerance**: It requires protection from full afternoon sun. Plants will be leggy in deeper shade but will still flower.

- **Watering and feeding**: Requires more water the first year; about twice a week during the hottest months, then once a week in subsequent years. Fertilize two or three times a year.

- **Soil requirements**: Grows on almost any soil except probably heavy clay.

- **Pruning**: Prune nearly to the ground in late winter or early spring, after flowering, for more vigorous growth. Prune in the early summer for more compact growth.