



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Mezcal Pelón

Agave pelona

DESCRIPTION: Pelón means “bald” in Spanish. In the case of this century plant, it may refer to the fact that the leaves have no teeth or shredding margins. The leaves are a rich green, transitioning to purple at the ends, with a whitish margin and tip. It grows slowly to about 2' across. At maturity (around 25 years old) it sends up an unbranched 10'-15' stalk of flowers. The flowers are ruby-red and attract hummingbirds. Mezcal Pelón is native to a single limestone mountain range, the Sierra el Viejo, in northwestern Sonora, Mexico. Some attractive hybrids of this species with Octopus Agave (*Agave vilmoriniana*) may be found in the nursery trade.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use as an accent, for its form and color, in a container, or in an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: It is hardy to the upper teens.



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



Watering and feeding: Water around once a week. Fertilize in the fall and late winter.



Soil requirements: Any well-drained soil (or potting soil, for containers) will do.



Pruning: None.