

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Desert Marigold or Hierba Amarilla

Baileya multiradiata

DESCRIPTION: Desert Marigold is a fast growing annual or short-lived perennial, forming a soft clump of soft wooly gray leaves. The name says it all. Masses of bright yellow daisy-like flowers appear from spring through fall. At lower elevations, it can bloom nearly year round. The blossoms are carried far above the silver-gray foliage on slender stems topping out at 12" tall. Desert marigold is ideal for tucking into tight planting spaces. It will reseed in open, gravelly places. It is heat and drought tolerant. You will find it in nature at elevations up to 5000'. Its flowers look like yellow marigolds on a light green marigold plant. Keep in mind that it will not tolerate lost of moisture, and you'll find it very easy to grow.

RECOMMENDED USE: It is often used in combination with other native perennials, but is also spectacular in a mass planting. Enjoy its colorful flowers to enhance a desert landscape or xeriscape. They also make great cut flowers.

CULTURE:

Hardiness: Very cold hardy; at least into the teens.



Sun tolerance: Full sun.



Watering and feeding: Will rot with too much water. Once established little is needed even in the low desert.



Soil requirements: Needs good drainage and no organic mulch.



Pruning: Deadheading will prolong bloom.