



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Damianita *Chrysactinia mexicana*

DESCRIPTION: Damianita is a low, spreading shrub that grows 1-2 feet tall and wide. It has dark green, aromatic, needle-like leaves. It has a slow to moderate growth rate, taking two or three seasons to reach full size. One of its most attractive features is the sheer number of flowers that can be produced at one time. Plants can literally be covered with yellow daisy blooms from March through October or November. Flowering is especially heavy in spring and fall. The dark green leaves and showy yellow flowers combine to create a very ornamental, low growing shrub that fits into any desert landscape.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use as a low, flowering border shrub, or mass plant it for a dynamic effect. Because of its small size, Damianita works well in small or narrow planting areas such as street or parking lot medians, small courtyards, or entry planters. Plant around patio areas where people can enjoy its wonderful fragrance.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: This plant is hardy to about 0° F.



Sun tolerance: Plant Damianita in a sunny location for best development and flowering. In full sun plants stay more round and tight, becoming open and leggy in the shade.



Watering and feeding: Once established, Damianita is quite drought tolerant, surviving on very little supplemental water. Summer flowering can be encouraged by the application of extra water, and by pruning off old flower heads.



Soil requirements: It tolerates most soils, but seems to grow best in one that has good drainage. It will grow in caliche soils if not over watered.



Pruning: Plants tend to get woody as they mature, and can start to look scruffy. Prune plants back in early spring or summer to initiate lush new growth.