

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Indigo Bush

Dalea versicolor var. sessilis

DESCRIPTION: This low, every even bush has a moderate growth rate to 3' tall by 5' wide. The clusters of flowers are light purple and occur from the fall through spring. This plant is valuable in attracting hummingbirds and butterflies. Indigo Bush is native to the grasslands and oak woodlands of southeastern Arizona. 'Mountain Delight' is a cultivated variety of Indigo Bush known to have more intense flowering.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use as an accent of winter color, a mounding ground cover, or in an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape, and to attract wildlife.

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CULTURE:

Hardiness: This species is fully winter hardy in Tucson.



Sun tolerance: Plant in full sun to keep it from sprawling. The bloom is also better in sun than in shade.



Watering and feeding: Water use is fairly low. Feed twice a year with a complete fertilizer.



Soil requirements: Any soil will do.

Pruning: Not usually needed if the ultimate size is considered when planting.

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