

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Arizona Foldwing Dicliptera resupinata

DESCRIPTION: This beautiful herbaceous perennial grows upright; 2 feet tall by 2 or 3 feet wide. The leaves are bright green and oval to lance-shaped. Delicate light purple flowers appear in abundance from April to October. The tubular, 2-lipped flowers are 3/4 inch (1.9 cm) long and have a purple-spotted white patch on the upper lip and a larger, solid-colored lower lip. There is a distinctive, heart-shaped, green bract at the base of each flower. These bracts dry and are persistant. The flowers attract multitudes of butterflies to the nectar. Arizona Foldwing is native to southeastern Arizona, New Mexico, and parts of northern Mexico. It is most common in partly shady spots along washes, in canyons, and in mesquite bosques.

RECOMMENDED USE: Good for sun or shade, as a mounding ground cover for color and to attract butterflies. It can produce an abundance of seed and become weedy in moist areas.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: It freezes below 26F but recovers quickly in the spring. It also re-seeds readily.



Sun tolerance: Full sun to part shade; becomes open and spreading in shade, but still blooms well.



Watering and feeding: Low to moderate once established, but performs better with regular irrigation. Feed in spring.



Soil requirements: Any soil will do.

Pruning: Can be pruned to 2" to control size or appearance any time.