



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Hummingbird Trumpet

Epilobium (Zauschneria) cana

DESCRIPTION: This is a distinctive root-perennial which grows in damp places on rocky slopes and in canyons, often along streams, in southern Arizona and northern Sonora, Mexico. It grows to around two feet tall, spreading slowly by underground rhizomes. Brilliant red, tubular flowers are born on upright stems from summer through fall. As the name implies, this plant attracts hummingbirds which pollinate it. Butterflies are also attracted to its flowers for the rich nectar. Some forms from locations with less summer rain have smaller leaves and a later bloom period, and are adapted to drier growing conditions.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use Hummingbird Trumpet as a ground cover, border, or in rock gardens. It can be planted along the banks of a water feature.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Hummingbird Trumpet will freeze back in the winter, but the roots are hardy to at least 10°F.



Sun tolerance: It can be grown in either in full sun or part shade, but too deep of shade will promote leggy growth and poor flowering.



Watering and feeding: This plant has moderate water needs when actively growing. It spreads slowly by suckering, but can be easily contained by keeping surrounding soil dry.



Soil requirements: Heavy clay soils are not the preferred substrate, so till in coarse sand if that is a problem.



Pruning: Cut back dead stems as it begins to resprout from the ground.

NOTE: As with most members of the Evening Primrose family, Hummingbird Trumpet is a favored food of rabbits and Javelina. Plant this in an area protected from them.