



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Rabbitbrush or Hierba Liebrera

Ericameria nauseosa

DESCRIPTION: This woody shrub has somewhat of a compact form, growing to as much as 6' tall by as wide in time, but often staying smaller. Variety *nauseosus* (aka dwarf chamisa) stays smaller and variety *speciosus* (aka whitestem chamisa) is slightly larger. Rabbitbrush is evergreen, with narrow, blue-grey leaves. Flowers are small and yellow, occurring in clusters. It blooms sporadically throughout the year, with major flowerings in late spring and again in mid-fall. Its native range is huge, from British Columbia, south to northern Mexico. Locally, it occurs at elevations from 3000' to 5500'. Here in Arizona, it is an excellent attractant for Great Purple Hairstreak butterflies.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use in a butterfly garden, or where autumn flowers are desired. Also for an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Fully hardy from Tucson to middle elevations.



Sun tolerance: Full to part-day sun.



Watering and feeding: It will need regular watering to establish and to maintain during dry times of the year. Feeding is not necessary.



Soil requirements: It does well in most soils that have good drainage.



Pruning: Not usually necessary. Avoid pruning right before major flowering times.