



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Desert Rose Mallow or Tulipán *Hibiscus coulteri* and *H. biseptus*

DESCRIPTION: A humble relative of the brilliant tropical Hibiscus plants, Desert Rose Mallow or Coulter Hibiscus is desert-adapted ornamental, grown for its showy flowers. It is a twiggy plant with rough hairs on its dark green leaves. Slender stems rise to a height of 5 ft., but often less. Large, yellow, cup-shaped flowers, often tinged with red or purple at the base, are borne atop the stems. Flowers occur following in the days following rains most any time from spring to fall. It is native from Arizona into Trans-Pecos Texas and south into Mexico. A close relative to this is *Hibiscus biseptus*. Leaves are similar, but the plant usually acts as an herbaceous perennial, resprouting from the base each spring. Flowers are butter yellow to pale ivory, but rarely have the red spots at the base.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use to enhance desert revegetation. Plant where it will grow up through small open shrubs.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Desert Rose Mallow is hardy to at least 20°F.



Sun tolerance: It does its best flowering and growth in full sun to light shade.



Watering and feeding: Water use is low and fertilizing not necessary. Water every few days to establish, and every week to 10 days after establishment.



Soil requirements: Most any soil will do.



Pruning: Usually not necessary.