



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Desert Lavender or Salvia *Hyptis albida* or *emoryi*

DESCRIPTION: Desert lavender is one of the most spectacular arroyo and canyon shrubs in this region. It has a wide range, growing from central Arizona, south into Sonora and Baja California. It is a woody shrub, reaching 7' by 6' across in age. It blooms several times a year, becoming covered with small purple, fragrant flowers. Another great thing about this plant is that the foliage has a strong, minty aroma. It is a reliable source of nectar for many desert butterflies.

RECOMMENDED USE: Rock garden, enhanced desert revegetation. Plant it where the aroma of the foliage can be enjoyed.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: It is marginally frost hardy. Temperatures in the mid-20's may cause extensive damage, but it will recover from the base.



Sun tolerance: This plant thrives in full sun or lightly filtered sun. Too much shade will make it bloom less and grow leggy.



Watering and feeding: Watch watering closely during the first hot season. After establishment, a weekly watering will help it look its best. Feeding is not necessary.



Soil requirements: Any soil that drains will do. Sandier soils are better.



Pruning: If frost damaged, prune back after regrowth begins in spring. Otherwise, minor pruning may be necessary to keep it in bounds.