



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Tansy Aster *Machaeranthera tanacetifolia*

DESCRIPTION: Tansy Aster, in the sunflower family, is also known as Tansyleaf, Prairie Aster and Tahoka Daisy. It is native to northern Mexico and the southwestern and central United States, where it grows in several types of habitat. It is an annual or biennial herb growing one or more branching stems up to about 3' tall. The multi-lobed leaves are up to 12 centimeters long. The flower heads have lavender rays and yellow disc flowers and inch across. The stems are densely covered with sharp-pointed, deeply cut leaves which appear fern-like. Plants can be erect or form clumps or mounds.

RECOMMENDED USE: Tansy Aster is an excellent choice for hard-to-maintain areas and prefers sandy or gravelly soil in full sun. It attracts butterflies.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: May survive a mild winter, but will reseed readily.



Sun tolerance: Full sun to light shade.



Watering and feeding: Regular watering to maintain and encourage blooms. Fertilization not necessary.



Soil requirements: Best in sandy or deep soil.



Pruning: As needed.