



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### **Dwarf Ruellia** *Ruellia brittonii*

**DESCRIPTION:** Dwarf Ruellia is a low-growing, herbaceous perennial with long, narrow, dark green leaves. It stays compact, growing to a foot or so tall by as wide. There are three cultivated varieties and all are prolific bloomers. 'Katie' has blue flowers, 'Rosa' has pink, and 'Blanca' has white. Flowering is from spring until first frost. Dwarf ruellia has a tendency to naturalize in moist soils, and the seedlings may have the larger growth habit of regular *Ruellia brittoniana*. To avoid this mixture, seedlings should be removed.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Can be used as a colorful accent in sun or light shade. It is an excellent choice for containers and oasis zones. Butterflies and hummingbirds go to the nectar-rich flowers.

#### **CULTURE:**



**Hardiness:** 15°F.



**Sun tolerance:** They will do well in full sun to light shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Water requirements are moderate. Fertilizing in spring and summer.



**Soil requirements:** Most soils.



**Pruning:** Cut plants back in late winter to remove frost damage and encourage new growth.