



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

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Floss Flower

Ageratum corymbosum

DESCRIPTION: Floss flower is a small evergreen subshrub that grows at a moderate rate to 2' tall by 2' wide. Clusters of blue-purple flowers cover the plants from spring until first frost. It is one of the favorite nectar plants of many butterflies, including the Queen and Sulfurs. The male Queen butterflies use an alkaloid in the flower as an aphrodisiac to attract females. Floss Flower can be found in our region in the forests of the Sierra Madre Occidentalis in Sonora, Mexico.

RECOMMENDED USE: Accent, border, flowers, ground cover, rock garden or in a container.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Floss flower is hardy to at least 25°F.



Sun tolerance: Full sun needed for its best bloom.



Watering and feeding: Moderate water needs: twice to three times per week needed in the summer.



Soil requirements: Most any soil will do in the ground. In a container, use a rich potting soil.



Pruning: Remove waning flower stalks to encourage more blooming. Prune off frost damage in late March.