



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Hollyleaf Bursage

*Ambrosia ilicifolia*

**DESCRIPTION:** Hollyleaf Bursage is a small, matted shrub under 3 feet in height. Its stiff, straight branches are green, glandular, and leafy when young, and light gray and leafless when older. The holly-like leaves are leathery but brittle and edged with spine-tipped teeth. They are green, veiny, and sticky with resin. It grows in very dry areas of the Sonoran Desert, around the head of the gulf and on several gulf islands. It has never been available in the nursery trade as far as we know.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** It can be used in an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape, or as an unusual accent in a patio container.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Unknown, but probably able to take temperatures at least down to 20°F.



**Sun tolerance:** Best in full sun to very light shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Water to establish in the ground, and no fertilization needed. Water as needed in containers. Fertilize twice yearly.



**Soil requirements:** Best in sandy soil.



**Pruning:** Can be pruned back severely before growth starts.