



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Golden Columbine or Aquileña *Aquilegia chrysantha*

DESCRIPTION: This low growing, herbaceous perennial is native to the mountains of Arizona, down to the tropical deciduous forest of Sonora. It can most often be found along streams and on damp, shady cliffs. It is a great shade plant for even the dimmest location in your landscape. Bright yellow flowers are produced on stalks from March through mid-summer. The unusually shaped flowers are perfectly adapted for pollination by hummingbirds. Golden Columbine is evergreen, but may lose leaves if allowed to dry out.

RECOMMENDED USE: Shade, flowers, ground cover, mini-oasis, container.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Golden Columbine is hardy to at least 15°F.



Sun tolerance: It is not only tolerant of shade, but requires protection from at least the afternoon sun.



Watering and feeding: High water use. Feed 2-3 times a year with a complete fertilizer.



Growing conditions: Golden Columbine is a moderate to high water user, especially in brighter locations. Good for shady, moist sites as long as the soil drains (sandy to loamy soil). Plant on margins of stream or pond or higher on the banks (see the Aquatic Plants information page; microhabitats #1 and #2). Fertilize twice yearly if not too close to water.



Pruning: Pruning is usually limited to dead-heading old flower spikes and occasional dead leaves.

PLANT CARE SHEET

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AQUILEÑA
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RECOMMENDED USE: Shade, flowers, ground cover, mini-oasis, container.

CULTURE: Golden Columbine is hardy to at least 15°F. It is not only tolerant of shade, but requires protection from at least the afternoon sun. Most any soil is fine, as long as it doesn't stay waterlogged. It does best in loamy soil. Feed 2-3 times a year with a complete fertilizer. Pruning is usually limited to dead-heading old flower spikes and occasional dead leaves.