



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Lantana Cultivars or Confiturilla

*Lantana camara*

**DESCRIPTION:** Lantanas are fast growing shrubs and subshrubs that have been selected for a variety of growth forms and flower colors. They are evergreen and bloom year round unless the plant is drought stressed or subjected to subfreezing temperatures. Its flowers are an excellent nectar source for Brushfoot, Skipper, and Swallowtail butterflies, and the White-lined Sphinx Moth. Lantana is a must for any butterfly garden. These Lantanas are cultivated varieties of *Lantana camara*, a tropical shrub that occurs as far north as the tropical deciduous forests of southern Sonora.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Accent, flowers, ground cover, containers.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Lantana is hardy down to around 26-30°F, although leaves and flowers may be frost nipped at 32°F. Major dieback will occur at temperatures approaching the lower 20's, so choosing a microhabitat for planting is important. The south side of a structure may be warm enough to give several degrees of protection to plants nearby.



**Sun tolerance:** They keep their form and bloom best in full sun or light shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Water use is moderate, and flowering may suffer if kept too dry. Plants in containers may need daily watering during the dry summer. It will benefit from twice yearly feeding with a complete fertilizer.



**Soil requirements:** They are tolerant of many soil types, although water frequency may be more in very sandy soils. Use a rich potting soil mixed with a small percentage of site soil for containers.



**Pruning:** Light pruning may be necessary. Selecting the right variety for your landscape situation reduces the amount of future pruning.

#### LIST OF SOME OF THE CULTIVAR CHARACTERS:

‘**Radiation**’ and ‘**Sunset**’ are small to medium size shrubs growing to about 3' tall and as wide. Flowers are brilliant yellow to red.

‘**Spreading Yellow**’ is a medium-sized spreading mound with bright yellow flowers.

‘**New Gold**’ is a low-growing, mounding form with whitish-yellow flowers.

‘**Irene**’ is a low, mounding form with red and yellow flowers that fade to purple.

‘**Patriot Tangerine**’ has hot orange flowers and consistent bloom.

‘**Spreading Sunset**’ grows upright with vivid orange flowers with a coral center.

‘**New Red**’ mounds with deep red-orange flower clusters.