



# ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

## PLANT CARE INFORMATION

### Capeweed or Frogfruit

*Phyla nodiflora*

**DESCRIPTION:** This perennial spreading groundcover has heads of white to pale lilac flowers from spring to fall. The plant stays low (less than one foot) and is tolerant of high heat. It spreads by runners and can be propagated that way. It can become aggressive in sandy soils with adequate moisture. It is a good butterfly plant, attracting smaller butterflies such as skippers, blues, and hairstreaks to its nectar-producing flowers. Capeweed is also a larval food plant for Common Buckeye and Phaon Crescent butterflies. This plant is native to the coastal areas from Virginia, down into Mexico. It has also become established in moist areas of many of the lower states.

**RECOMMENDED USE:** Good ground cover, cascading over boulders, or a trimmed border. Great in a patio container or hanging pot. Will to attract butterflies.

#### CULTURE:



**Hardiness:** Fully winter hardy in Tucson although it may go dormant in colder areas.



**Sun tolerance:** Full sun to light shade.



**Watering and feeding:** Somewhat drought tolerant once established but benefits from infrequent deep waterings. Fertilize heavily in early spring, and again in mid-summer.



**Soil requirements:** Most soils.



**Pruning:** Runners can be pruned any time. It can even be mowed at 3" to control. Limit watering at the margins to help control spreading.