



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Shrub Live Oak or Encinillo *Quercus turbinella*

DESCRIPTION: Shrub Live Oak (or Scrub Oak) is an evergreen species seldom seen in landscapes. It is usually a multi-trunked mounding shrub, but can be pruned into a single trunk. It grows at a moderate rate and can reach 15' or more. The oval leaves are small, leathery, and gray-blue with toothed margins. Small, slender acorns ripen in the summer, providing food for wildlife. It is native from the central Rockies to northwestern Mexico. In Arizona, it is often found from grassland to oak-woodland zones at elevations from 3500 to 6000 feet. Shrub Live Oak produces acorns that ripen during July and August.

RECOMMENDED USE: This naturally dense canopy makes it useful in the landscape as a visual and wind barrier for those allergic to more conventional screening plants like the Junipers. Its dense branch and leaf structure provides shelter for wildlife.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: At least to 0°F.



Sun tolerance: Plant in full sun to part shade



Watering and feeding: Regular, deep watering is needed early on to establish a drought tolerant, deep rooted plant. Fertilizing is not necessary.



Soil requirements: Best in well-drained soils.



Pruning: As needed to shape any time.