

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Tecoma hybrids

DESCRIPTION: Hybrid Tecomas have quickly become a favorite large shrub for Southwestern landscapes. Their lush green foliage, showy tubular flowers, and fast growth rate combine to make it ideal for many landscape situations. The flowers are produced during the warm season and attract hummingbirds, with very few seed pods produced after flowering.

- **-Orange Jubilee** has clusters of $2\frac{1}{2}$ " long flowers, darker red-orange near the base, and more orange near the mouth. It is an upright shrub which can grow up to 12 feet tall and 8 feet across if not frozen back for a couple of winters. Rich green, lush looking foliage gives this plant a subtropical appearance.
- **-Solar flare**: If you want sizzling warm-season color in your yard, Solar Flare is the plant for you. Tangerine flowers attract hummingbirds from spring through fall. Full sun and reflected heat locations are ideal for this heat-loving plant. It grows rapidly to six feet tall and as wide. Freezes limit the size, but it jumps back quickly the next spring.

RECOMMENDED USE: These hybrids can be used singly or in groups against a large blank wall to show off its rich green color. They can also be planted along streetscapes, in parking lots, or other reflected heat locations. Their lush appearance also makes it a natural for the mini-oasis of a xeriscape. Young plants may be susceptible to damage by rabbits, but once they have attained a size of 3 to 4 feet tall and the stems have developed some thickness, they are usually not bothered. The tomato hornworm caterpillars can nearly defoliate a young plant.

CULTURE:

Hardiness: Orange Jubilee' is quite root hardy, although its foliage may be damaged when temperatures drop into the mid to low 20's F. It may freeze back to the ground when temperatures hit the mid-teens. It bounces back quickly after a hard frost



Sun tolerance: It should be planted in full sun or reflected sun.



Watering and feeding: Moderately drought tolerant, surviving on minimal during the summer. However, this plant will look more lush and flower more profusely when given regular supplemental water from spring until fall. Fertilize twice a year.



Soil requirements: Good for a variety of soil types, tolerating rocky, native soil with no supplemental organic amendments, as well as a rich soil.



Pruning: Frost-damaged plants should be cut back in the late winter or early spring. Luckily, these hybrids produces very few seed pods.