



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Chihuahuan Whitethorn Acacia *Vachellia vernicosa*

DESCRIPTION:

A closely related species to Whitethorn Acacia (*Vachellia constricta*), Chihuahuan Whitethorn grows in SE Arizona and the Chihuahuan Desert. Its form is that of an ocotillo; tall and spindly. Otherwise the leaves and flowers are like *Vachellia constricta*. It can grow from 6 to 10 feet in height. Its stems range from a light gray to a mahogany color, with pairs of straight white spines anywhere from 0.5 to 2 cm long. The small leaves are drought and cold deciduous. The flowers occur in small yellow balls about ½ inch in diameter.

RECOMMENDED USE: Chihuahuan Whitethorn Acacia is uncommon in desert gardens; it can be trained into barriers or as a large shrub. It can be a good addition to an enhanced desert landscape or xeriscape.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: 0°F.



Sun tolerance: Best form and flowering in full sun.



Watering and feeding: Very drought tolerant once established. No fertilization necessary.



Soil requirements: Any soil.



Pruning: As needed to shape and control.