



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

False Indigo Bush

Amorpha fruticosa

DESCRIPTIONS: False Indigo Bush is a medium-sized shrub grows in mid-elevations of Sonora and Arizona. It grows at a moderate rate to a size of 5' tall or slightly more. Flowers are tiny and purple, occurring on densely packed spikes. Providing nectar for butterflies, some people say the blooms are fragrant. The Marine Blue, Grey Hairstreak, and Southern Dogface butterflies lay their eggs upon the plant.

RECOMMENDED USE: Use in the foreground, as its delicate branching and foliage is attractive.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Temperatures in the low- to mid-twenties will freeze the stems, but they will resprout from the crown. Mulch the crown for added protection in colder planting sites.



Sun tolerance: Full sun to moderate shade is fine for Indigo Bush



Watering and feeding: This species is somewhat drought tolerant, but will look bedraggled if stressed. Regular, deep watering will keep it looking its best. Fertilizing is not needed.



Soil requirements: Most soils which drain are fine.



Pruning: To control or to remove winter frozen stems.