



ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT
MUSEUM

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Mexican Tree Sunflower hybrid *Tithonia fruticosa* × *Lagascea decipiens*

DESCRIPTION: This is a hybrid created at the Desert Museum; a cross of the Mexican Tree Sunflower (*Tithonia*) and Confiturilla Grande (*Lagascea*). These two species of Composites both have yellow flowers. The former has 4-inch sunflowers and the latter has clusters of ray-less ½” blooms. This hybrid has intermediate flowers and has an extended blooming season. It has a shorter stature like *Lagascea* and larger, felty leaves like *Tithonia*. We have only been growing this since 2007 and don’t know a lot about its long-term performance. It does seem to attract local butterflies.

RECOMMENDED USE: Good for attracting butterflies. Good for those shady spots where it is tough to grow plants.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: We’ve seen it take 20°F when grown under an ironwood tree.



Sun tolerance: Full sun to moderate shade.



Watering and feeding: Needs regular irrigation. Feed sparingly in spring, summer, and fall.



Soil requirements: Tolerant of a variety of soils; does best in well drained substrates.



Pruning: Occasional pruning will encourage denser growth. Be aware that pruning before flowering may compromise the bloom.