



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Jojoba *Simmondsia chinensis*

DESCRIPTION: Jojoba is a woody shrub with a slow to moderate growth rate to 5' to 8' tall by 4' to 10' across. It forms a dense wall of grey-green leaves. Male and female flowers are born on separate plants. Neither are significant enough to be of much notice, but the female flowers, when pollinated, form a “nut” prized for its fine oil. Male flowers dangle like a miniature bunch of grapes, opening to allow wind dispersal of the pollen. Jojoba is found in all but the driest areas of the Sonoran Desert in Arizona, Baja California, and Sonora, Mexico.

RECOMMENDED USE: Screen, barrier, hedge, desert revegetation.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Jojoba is hardy to at least 20°F.



Sun tolerance: Plant it in full sun to light shade for the best form and density. Too much shade will lead to lanky growth.



Watering and feeding: It can be left to rainfall after establishment, but does better on supplemental watering of 2-4 times a month. Feeding is usually not necessary.



Soil requirements: Jojoba will grow in almost any soil.



Pruning: Pruning will be needed if it is to be a formal hedge, or if it is planted where room for natural growth is not given.