



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Nacapule Jasmine *Vallesia (baileyana) laciniata*

DESCRIPTION: Nacapule Jasmine is a large, evergreen shrub to ten feet tall and 12 feet wide with dense, shiny green leaves about two inches long. One-inch clusters of small, star-shaped, white flowers give off a strong fragrance of jasmine both day and night. The blooms are abundant in summer and fall, with some flowers nearly year round. Small white fleshy berries are eaten by birds. The species is native to southern Baja California and to Nacapule Canyon, near San Carlos, Sonora.

RECOMMENDED USE: Its ultimate size makes it a good candidate for background or screening uses. Place where the fragrance of the flowers can be enjoyed.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Hardy to the mid 20's. Dies to ground in upper teens. Frost-damaged plants recover well the following summer. Not recommended where such freezes occur every year unless protected.



Sun tolerance: Nacapule Jasmine performs well in full desert sun or partial shade. It also tolerates deep shade but will be leggy and less floriferous.



Watering and feeding: Generous watering will produce rapid growth, but once established it will remain attractive on only twice-monthly irrigations.



Soil requirements: Any soil that drains seems to suit it, including thin or rocky soils.



Pruning: As needed. Leave frost damaged stems until springtime.

NOTE: Because it is in the dogbane family (*Apocynaceae*) which includes *Oleander* and *Karoo rose*, it may be dangerously poisonous if eaten. Animals have never damaged our plants at the Desert Museum. Berries of a related species *Vallesia glabra* are eaten by Seri Indians, so the fruits are probably not poisonous, at least in small amounts.