

ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM

PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Yellow Evening Primrose

Calylophus hartwegii

DESCRIPTION: An herbaceous perennial native to southeastern Arizona's grasslands and mountains. Mounding plants with small bright green leaves grow to less than a foot tall by three feet wide. Brilliant yellow, crepe-textured flowers open late in the late afternoon and remain open until noon the next day. In the desert it blooms profusely from April through June or July with some flowers continuing until frost. The blooms are visited by Sphinx Moths in the late afternoon and evening. The plant may spread slowly by underground rhizomes.

RECOMMENDED USE: Plant on two to three foot centers for a ground cover, or farther apart for separate spots of color. Can be planted under shrubs and trees that cast sparse shade.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: Freezes to ground and resprouts from roots. Roots hardy to below 0°F. (Grows in nature to 7000 feet elevation.)



Sun tolerance: Flowers best in full sun or light shade. Plants become leggy in Moderate shade but still flower, though less profusely. Flowers open earlier if planted in afternoon shade.



Watering and feeding: Deep rooted and drought tolerant, but needs water to flower. Irrigation every one to two weeks depending on soil and weather is adequate for continued bloom. Feed once or twice per year.



Soil requirements: Tolerates almost any soil, even hard clayey ones. Needs less water in heavy soils. Lushest growth is in good garden soil. Apparently resistant to Texas root rot.



Pruning: The ground should be cleared of old dead growth before growth resumes in February.



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