



ARIZONA-SONORA DESERT MUSEUM PLANT CARE INFORMATION

Valeriana del Monte *Dyschoriste hirsutissima*

This perennial herb or weak subshrub found in the forest understory of the tropical deciduous forests and oak woodlands of northern Mexico. It is usually evergreen except after very hard freezes or long droughts. Flowering occurs almost continuously during winter and spring, and occasionally other times of the year. The bluish-lavender flowers are around a half inch long and attract butterflies to its nectar during the warm months. The foliage is strongly scented. Though some find it pleasant, others describe it as an odor of a “lemon-scented skunk”.

RECOMMENDED USE: Can be used for its color, or as a ground cover or border, or in a rock garden or patio container.

CULTURE:



Hardiness: We have tested Valeriana del Monte to 20F with minor damage. If temperatures below 20 are expected, it would be best to cover the crown with mulch.



Sun tolerance: Can take full sun, but thrives with light afternoon shade.



Watering and feeding: Low to moderate; more needed in containers. Feed twice a year with complete fertilizer.



Soil requirements: Any soil, but does best in well-drained, sandy soil.



Pruning: Can be cut back to near the ground any time if it gets leggy.



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CULTURE:



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