

Botanical Name: Lysiloma microphylla thornberi (L.thornberi)

Common Name: Feather bush, Fern-of-the-desert

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub/sm. tree Character partially deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape rounded, shrubby, multi-trunked small tree or shrub with
bipinnately compound foliage resembling Albizia or Jacaranda; foliage is filmy
and bright green, contrasting with dark brown bark

Height 12 to 15' Spread 12 to 15' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure in/out full sun preferred; does not tolerate shade

Soil tolerates any soil with good drainage

Hardiness hardy; (zones 12-24) may be evergreen in frost-free areas

Morphology:

Leaves bipinnately compound with 6-8 pairs of pinna, each with
20 to 30 pairs of 1/2" narrow leaflets; medium to bright green

Flowers 3/4" diameter rounded clusters of tiny creamy white flowers
in summer; resemble Albizia distachya flowers

Fruit 4-6" long, 3/4" wide dark brown pod in summer

Propagation: seed

Usage: excellent informal large shrub or small tree for rustic or
desert theme landscapes; can be pruned into a single-trunked small specimen tree
or used as a screen or background plant

Landscape Care:

Watering tolerates virtually no irrigation once established; will
tolerate average watering if drainage is good

Fertilizing none required

Pruning thin regularly to enhance form and show off structure

Pests/Diseases root rot where drainage is poor

Special Conditions _____

Origin: Arizona Family: Fabaceae