

Botanical Name: Justicia californica (Beloperone californica)

Common Name: Chuparosa

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a low, wide-spreading, intricately-branched plant, with gray-green soft-woody stems, forming a loosely rounded or mounded shrub

Height 3' - 5' Spread equal or more Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun required; thrives in warm dry locations

Soil prefers loose sandy soils

Hardiness tender (zones 10-13, 18-24): grow below 2500' inland

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, ovate, to 1/2" long; yellowish-green; drop during periods of drought

Flowers bright red (occasionally orange or yellow), tubular, 1" - 1-1/2" long, in showy clusters at ends of branches; March-May, intermittent

Fruit a capsule; inconspicuous

Propagation: seed

Usage: an unusual and distinctive plant, used primarily as a filler for its display of showy red flowers; informal barrier or loose hedge plantings; valued for its great drought-tolerance

Landscape Care:

Watering an occasional deep soak; avoid over-watering in clay soils

Fertilizing none required

Pruning very little; head back if the growth becomes lanky

Pests/Diseases relatively free; root fungus diseases in heavy clay soils

Special Conditions red flowers attract hummingbirds

Origin: Mojave Desert; Baja Ca. Family: Acanthaceae