

Botanical Name: Vitis girdiana

Common Name: Desert wild grape

Type of Plant: dicot: vine Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape a vigorously growing, sprawling or mounding woody vine when unsupported; climbs through the canopies of supporting trees or shrubs by means of tendrils

Height variable-to50' Spread equal or more Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors tolerates most, including heavy shade; prefers full sun

Soil thrives in sandy or rocky soils; tolerates most

Hardiness hardy (zones 12-24): best suited in warm low-elevation site

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, round to heart-shaped, 3-5 lobed; 4"-8" long, with a coarsely dentate margin; upper surface dark green, lower paler green, with prominent veination and soft-hairy surface

Flowers inconspicuous, greenish, in dense clusters; April - June

Fruit a berry: round, bluish-black, 1/4" diameter, edible

Propagation: seed or hardwood cuttings

Usage: an excellent fast-growing vine for covering fences, walls, arbors, etc., if kept in bounds by pruning can be used for screening; valued for its attractive foliage

Landscape Care:

Watering thrives with an occasional irrigation during summer months; tends to drop foliage early if severely drought-stressed

Fertilizing none required after establishment

Pruning head back strongly, as needed, to keep in bounds

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions desert/coastal foothill canyons

Origin: So. Calif. Family: Vitaceae