

Botanical Name: Fremontodendron mexicanum

Common Name: Southern flannel bush

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub/tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, single or multi-trunked plant, with stiff
ascending-spreading branches forming a pyramidal canopy in youth; older plants
become broadly rounded - irregular

Height 10' - 20' (25') Spread equal or more Growth Rate mod./rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun; gets root fungus diseases in shaded locations

Soil prefers dry, loose soils; tolerates clay if drainage is
excellent

Hardiness hardy (zones 7-24); thrives in warm dry-slope habitats

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, with 3-5(7) shallow lobes; mostly oval
to nearly round, 2"-3" long; leathery, covered with tan colored fuzzy hairs;
young stems also hairy

Flowers bright yellow (often tinged with orange), 5-parted (of
sepals); solitary, to 2"-3" across, at ends of short lateral branchlets; March-
June

Fruit a capsule; 5-valved, densely hairy-bristly, 1"-2" long

Propagation: seed or semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: a highly valued large accent shrub or small tree for its
spectacular display of yellow flowers; large-scale background or screen
plantings; can be espaliered (in youth) for more formal landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering very little after established; avoid summer irrigation

Fertilizing none required

Pruning little is required; avoid strongly heading back

Pests/Diseases root fungus diseases - a serious problem in heavy soils

Special Conditions provide good drainage when installing plants

Origin: San Diego/Baja Family: Sterculiaceae