San Diego Mountain Mahogany

Cercocarpus minutiflorus



San Diego Mountain Mahogany flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 7

Description:

An evergreen shrub that is great as a rock garden accent plant or screen; an attractive plant for dry situations; leathery dark green leaves contrast the gray bark; a great water conservation shrub



San Diego Mountain Mahogany in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

San Diego Mountain Mahogany has attractive dark green evergreen foliage on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The serrated oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter. The smooth gray bark and brick red branches are extremely showy and add significant winter interest.

Landscape Attributes

San Diego Mountain Mahogany is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

San Diego Mountain Mahogany is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

San Diego Mountain Mahogany will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.