

Landscapes for the Highlands—Plant Guide



Scientific Name: *Fallugia paradoxa*
Common Name: APACHE PLUME
Family: Rose

Description: Semi-evergreen shrub that grows to 6' with an open, branched growth form.

Foliage: Leaves are small, grayish-green, and divided into linear lobes. Plants are semi-deciduous – they retain some leaves throughout the winter.

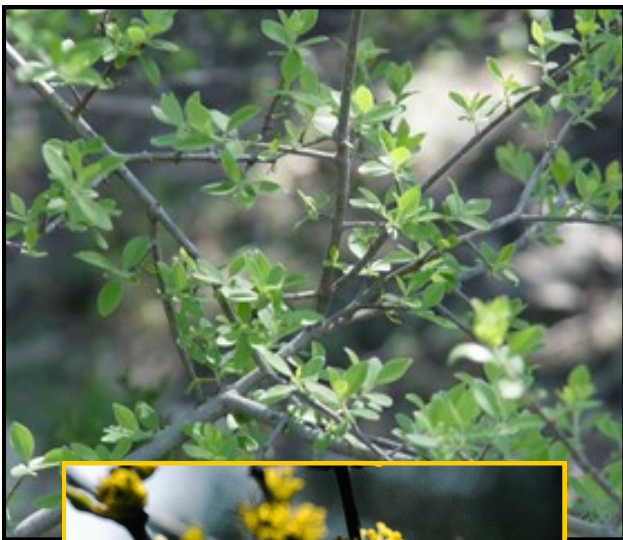
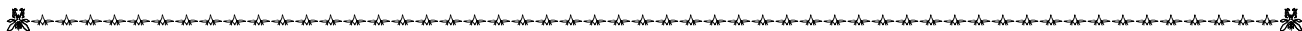
Flowers: Pure white flowers are 2" wide, 5-petaled and rose-like. Numerous, long-lasting, pink-plumed seeds follow flowers.

Water Requirements: 0 – 4" of supplemental irrigation per year once established.

Aspect / Soils: Any. Very tolerant of heat and drought once established.

Hardiness: - 30 degrees F.

Other Notes: This shrub should be planted in an area where it can maintain its open growth habit and spread naturally. Some branches extend to the soil and root, making this a good choice for erosion control.



Scientific Name: *Forestiera neomexicana*
Common Name: NEW MEXICAN OLIVE
Family: Olive

Description: Deciduous, sprawling shrub to small tree that grows to 6' or more. Bark is smooth gray to light tan.

Foliage: Bright green to gray green, oval in shape.

Fall Color: Leaves turn brilliant yellow.

Flowers: Tiny and petal-less but fragrant, produced in small clusters. Male and female flowers on separate plants. Fruit is a tiny dark blue egg shaped, fleshy and olive-like.

Water Requirements: 0 - 4" of supplemental irrigation per year.

Aspect / Soils: Any

Hardiness: Grows throughout the southwest from 2,000 to 7,000 feet in elevation.

Other Notes: The contrast of leaf color and grey bark makes this shrub unique in the landscape. Wood of the *Forestiera* is very hard.

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Scientific Name: *Penstemon cardinalis*
Common Name: **CARDINAL PENSTEMON**
Family: Snapdragon

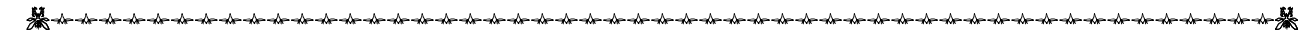
Description: Produces large, fleshy heart-shaped leaves that closely hug the stem. Grows to 1' tall and wide.

Flowers: Bright red flowers are produced in early summer.

Aspect / Soils: Full sun. Well drained soil.

Hardiness: To -20 degrees F.

Other Notes: Reseeds easily in the landscape. Native to west Texas and New Mexico mountains. Flowers very attractive to hummingbirds.



Scientific Name: *Penstemon eatoni*
Common Name: **FIRECRACKER PENSTEMON**
Family: Snapdragon

Description: Glossy dark green leaves are produced in basal rosettes and along upright stems. Leaves are 2.5" long.

Flowers: Many bright scarlet-red tubular flowers with flaring lobes are produced on a 2' flower stalk. Flower from May to June in our area, depending on elevation and location in the yard.

Aspect / Soils: Full sun. Needs well-drained soil.

Hardiness: To -20 degrees F.

Other Notes: Reseeds easily in the landscape. Native to sandy washes and slopes in the southwest US. Grows from 2,000 to 7,000' in elevation. Pollinated by hummingbirds.



Scientific Name: *Penstemon palmeri*
Common Name: **PALMER or SCENTED PENSTEMON,**
Family: Snapdragon

Description: Basal rosette and stems with waxy blue-gray, wavy leaves produce long spectacular spikes of flowers.

Flowers: Large, pink and very fragrant. Spikes continue to grow and produce flowers through the summer. Flower stalks may grow to 4 - 5'.

Aspect / Soils: Full sun. Needs well-drained soil. Thrives in pockets of rock walls and rock gardens.

Hardiness: To -30 degrees F.

Other Notes: Plants will die after 2-3 years, but they reseed easily. May become very robust and woody. Attractive to many pollinators. Found from 3,500 to 6,500' from Utah, to California and Arizona.

