

MAY ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

DESERT IRONWOOD



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DESERT IRONWOOD



This month we are learning all about the Desert Ironwood and its pollinators. Here are some key facts:

- This legume tree grows in washes and hillside drainages, up to 35 feet tall with blue/gray- to deep-green leaves, purple pea-like flowers and summertime bean pods, providing food for many wildlife species.
- Named for its strong, dense wood, so heavy that it sinks in water. Having a slow growth and a long-life span, often reaching 300-800 years or more.
- Peak blooms occur in May and attract several varieties of bees, butterflies and other insects.

Sources:

- Dimmitt, MA, PW Comus, and LM Brewer. 2015. A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert. 2nd Edition. Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Press and University of California Press. 575 p.
- https://www.desertmuseum.org/programs/ifnm_ironwoodtree.php Arizona Game and Fish Department. 165 p.


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