

Arid Zone Trees



Acacia jennerae, Coonavittra Wattle



Horticultural Qualities

Acacia jennerae Coonavittra Wattle

Foliage: Evergreen

Mature Height: 15' - 22'

Mature Width: 8' - 15'

Growth Rate: Moderate

Hardiness: 15 degrees F

Exposure: Full Sun

Leaf Color: Gray- Green

Shade: Filtered

Flower Color: Golden Yellow

Flower Shape: Balls (in racemes)

Flower Season: Winter & Spring

Thorns: None

Box Sizes Produced: 24"

Propagation Method: Seed

www.aridzonetrees.com

Arid Zone Trees, P. O. Box 167, Queen Creek, AZ 85242, Phone 480-987-9094 e-mail: info@aridzonetrees.com

Acacia jennerae, Coonavitra Wattle

Acacia jennerae, Coonavitra Wattle, is an Australian import that takes its name from the town of Coonavitra in New South Wales, Australia where it grows native along creek banks and salt lakes. It is a medium stature, evergreen and matures into an upright, generally columnar, thornless tree with slightly weeping leaves and a lacy canopy. It shares branch structure qualities, canopy structural and leaf texture characteristics with *Acacia salicina*. *Acacia jennerae* has vertically ascending branches, with drooping tips, giving it a vase-shaped, upright, narrow profile. With rigid, upturned leaves the canopy is compact yet lacy giving the tree a lush texture that provides scattered shade. Yellow to gold ball-shaped flowers, in 3-to-8 flower clusters, are produced from November to February and sometimes in response to summer irrigations. The contrast between the reddish branches and stems with the pale green leaves make this a striking, medium stature, evergreen tree. It is used as an accent, theme and patio tree, in parking medians, streetscapes, and any setting where an evergreen, flowering trees is needed. Pods have a zig-zag appearance, gray-brown to tan and about 4" to 7" long. Trees can reach a mature height of 20' with a width of about 12'.

The contrast between the reddish branches and stems with the pale green-gray leaves make this a striking, medium stature, evergreen tree. It is used as an accent, theme and patio tree, in parking medians, streetscapes, and any setting where an evergreen, flowering trees is needed. Their stature and upright growth make them ideal for patios, entry courts, narrow side yards or as a perimeter screen planting. It can be mixed with deciduous trees and shrubs to soften the barren appearance of landscapes in winter and the blooming habit adds much needed color to the desert winter. In field tests conducted in Tucson, AZ, trees tolerated 15 degrees F without damage and have demonstrated vigorous growth under desert conditions.

Cultural Practices

Foster the development of a more dispersed root system and reduce the risk of wind throw by arranging irrigation emitters at varying distances from the trunk to encourage roots to "seek out" water and nutrients. Irrigation emitter arrangement along with other information on irrigations practices for desert trees can be found at www.aridzonetrees.com and click on the FAQ link.

Prune as needed to reinforce the structure and form of the tree. Periodic thinning is the most desirable method of pruning. Avoid hedging or heading back desert species, as this will only stimulate excessive branching. Do not remove more than 30% of the canopy during the summer as this can lead to sunburn injuries that can later be invaded by wood boring insects. Always use clean, sharp tools that are cleaned regularly in a 10% solution of bleach. For detail pruning guide see www.aridzonetrees.com and click on the FAQ interactive button.

Acacia jennerae is relatively free of serious insect pests.

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