

## Whitethorn Acacia (Common Name)

*Vachellia constricta* (Scientific Name)



### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 10' – 20' wide

Annual Growth Rate: 24"

Powerline Friendly: 10' – 20' from base

Root Damage Potential: Low

Leaves: Finely segmented, pinnate leaves which fall off during dry seasons.

Flowers: Small, yellow-orange balls of fragrant flowers.



### ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: Low

Edible Fruit Producing: No

Allergenic: Low

BVOC Emissions: Moderate

Sonoran Desert Native: Yes

Invasive Species: No



Tree Care: Plant in full sun in well-draining soils. Drought tolerant, but watering during drier summer months can promote growth. Prune to shape extensively when younger.

Ecosystem Services: Many small desert mammals feed on the whitethorn acacia; is important to the survival of several southwestern bird species as a food source. Provides cover for desert mammals and southern bird species. Native Americans used the fruits to make pinole. When ground into a powder, leaves and pods can stop bleeding, relieve diaper rashes and chafed skin, and may be used as an antimicrobial wash. The root, when made into tea, treats sore throats, coughing, and mouth inflammations.