

Botanical Name: *Caesalpinia cacalaco*

Common Name: Cascalote



Family: Fabaceae

Habitat: Desert plains, foothills

Native Distribution: Southern Mexico

Elevation: Up to 5,000 ft

Hardiness: 20-25°F

Type: Evergreen

Size: 15' tall x 15' wide

Shape: Vase-shaped, sometimes irregular

Growth Rate: Moderate

Flowers: Large clustered spikes of bright yellow flowers at the branch tips

Bloom Season: November to March

Fruit: Copper-colored seedpods follow blooms

Foliage: Glossy, dark-green compound leaves

Exposure: Full sun

Shade: Somewhat dense

Water Requirements: Low

In the Landscape: Often used as xeriscape accents or in mass plantings (like informal borders) because of their showy flowers. Can also be used as background or in medians and parking lots because of their smaller size. Great for patios! Will also adapt to turf. Great choice for a hot and sunny location, and provides winter color. To prolong blooming season, water every two weeks and deadhead the blooms. Some thorns along the stems; low litter.

Wildlife: Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

Other Stuff:

- Left unpruned, it will grow into a large shrub.
- Seed pods have been used to create dye.
- Will sustain frost damage below 20°.
- Can be susceptible to psyllids, but can generally be controlled by spraying it with water.