

Botanical Name: *Caesalpinia gilliesii*

Common Name: Yellow Bird of Paradise



Family: Fabaceae

Habitat: Roadsides, dry washes

Native Distribution: Argentina

Elevation: Up to 5,000 ft

Hardiness: 10°F

Type: Evergreen

Size: 8' tall x 6' wide

Shape: Open

Growth Rate: Moderately fast

Flowers: Very showy yellow flowers on branch terminals with 4-5" long red stamens

Bloom Season: Summer to fall

Fruit: Fuzzy, tan persistent pod

Foliage: Very fine, bluish-green bi-pinnate leaves about 3-5" long and fern-like

Exposure: Full sun

Shade: Filtered

Water Requirements: Low

In the Landscape: Informal shrub with very open growth pattern. Use in Phoenix xeriscapes as informal border, summer color, in mass plantings, and in medians. Excellent re-vegetation plant. Moderate litter and maintenance. No thorns.

Wildlife: Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

Other Stuff:

- Now naturalized throughout the SW United States.
- Can also be trained as a small tree.
- All parts of this plant are toxic; not a good choice for kids or pets.
- Needs infrequent, but deep watering and good drainage.
- Nitrogen-fixing.