

Botanical Name: *Callaeum macropterum* (also *Callaeum macroptera*, formerly *Mascagnia macroptera*)

Common Name: Yellow Orchid Vine



Family: Malpighiaceae

Habitat: Washes, rocky slopes, gravelly plains

Native Distribution: NW to Central Mexico

Elevation: Up to 2,500 ft

Hardiness: 25°F

Type: Evergreen

Size: 15-20' tall x 15-20' wide

Shape: Twining

Growth Rate: Moderate

Flowers: 1" yellow orchid-like blooms with five distinct petals

Bloom Season: Late spring and summer

Fruit: Chartreuse winged fruit turning tan and papery when ripe

Foliage: 2" medium-green leaves with smooth margins

Exposure: Full/reflected sun

Shade: N/A

Water Requirements: Low

***Callaeum macropterum* (Yellow Orchid Vine) in**

Phoenix xeriscapes: Yellow Orchid Vine can be trained to twine up a trellis, arbor, or chain-link fence and so works well as a screen for just about anything. Low litter, no thorns.

Wildlife: N/A

More about *Callaeum macropterum* (Yellow Orchid Vine):

- Yellow Orchid Vine requires some patience but, once established, should grow really well.
- Yellow Orchid Vine may require minimal pruning to control size, otherwise no pruning needed.
- *Callaeum macropterum* can be trained to a trellis or, without support, will grow as a groundcover.
- *Callaeum macropterum* will look better with supplemental watering in the summer.
- Yellow Orchid Vine is sometimes called Butterfly Vine because its fruits, when open, resemble butterfly wings.
- *Callaeum macropterum* may freeze to the ground in outlying areas of Phoenix, but will recover in the spring.