

Botanical Name: *Hechtia montana*

Common Name: False Agave



Family: Bromeliaceae

Native Distribution: Well drained slopes and rocky outcrops from SW Texas to N Mexico

Plant Size: Rosette-forming leaf succulent clumping to 2' tall and 2' wide

Flowers: Inconspicuous flowers on long spikes

Foliage: Light green leaves with nasty spines along the margins, curving inward

Site Preferences: Partial shade in Phoenix

Landscape Uses: Use in rock gardens, with other cacti and succulents, and in containers.

Other Stuff:

- Rosette-forming, similar to a bromeliad.
- Prefer slightly moist roots, not soggy.
- Absorb most of their nutrients through roots rather than the leaves like their rain forest siblings.
- Considered a food source in its native habitat.
- Has numerous prominently spined leaves that are shiny olive green on the upper side and can assume a brick red tint.