

Botanical Name: *Leucophyllum laevigatum*

Common Name: Chihuahuan Sage



Family: Scrophulariaceae

Habitat: Rocky hillsides

Native Distribution: SW New Mexico and NW Mexico

Elevation: 4,000 to 7,500 ft

Hardiness: 15°F

Type: Evergreen

Size: 4' tall x 5' wide

Shape: Rounded and open

Growth Rate: Moderately fast

Flowers: ½" lavender to bluish-lavendar set close to stems

Bloom Season: Summer

Fruit: N/A

Foliage: ½" medium green leaves

Exposure: Full sun

Shade: Some filtered shade

Water Requirements: Very low

In the Landscape: In Phoenix landscapes, *Leucophyllum laevigatum* works well in entryways where you can take advantage of its light fragrance or around pools or other areas where you don't want a lot of litter. Use in more naturalistic desert settings for summer color. Mass plant with other *Leucophyllum* species for added drama or mass plant a single species for a more formal hedge. Low maintenance.

Wildlife: Attracts bees.

Other Stuff:

- *Leucophyllum laevigatum* has a nice fragrance, especially after a summer rain.
- Chihuahuan Sage rarely requires pruning; shearing will injure the plant and interrupt blooming.
- Chihuahuan Sage will often bloom after summer rains, but can also bloom with supplemental watering in the summer.
- Chihuahuan Sage can tolerate some shade, but will become leggy if it has too much shade.