

Insert as an Additional Taxa For *Acacia farnesiana*.

Acacia constricta A. Gray
(*Acaciopsis constricta*)

White-Thorn Acacia

- C *Acacia constricta* is also known as All-Thorn Acacia, Chaparro Prieto, Gigantillo, Huisache, Largancillo, Mescat Acacia, or Vara Prieta; White-Thorn Acacia is native to Mexico, and the Southwestern US, including and West and South Texas; this highly adaptable species varies from a spreading deciduous multi-stem shrub to a 15(20) tall small tree depending upon the moisture regime and cold temperatures prevalent in the region; the bipinnately compound leaves are finely divided creating a ferny textured foliage, which contrasts with the conspicuous ¼ to 1½ long straight to slightly curved white spines; these sharp spines are in pairs at the nodes; juvenile plants are much thornier than mature trees.
- C The showy yellow to yellow-orange puffball-like flowers have a sweet rose-like fragrance; bloom peaks in mid- to late spring, but may also occur sporadically through late summer if moisture is available; numerous 20 to 40 long slender reddish brown string bean-like pods, which are strongly constricted between the seeds, follow the flowers and can be messy on sidewalks and manicured lawns.
- C This species tolerates a wide range of soils from fine gravel to heavier clays and even caliche as long as they are well drained, full sun to mostly sunny sites are required; with proper provenance selection, plants are hardy in USDA zones 7 through 10; mistletoe infestations can be problematic in some regions; the thorns can be a maintenance or pedestrian hazard.
- C White-Thorn Acacia is most useful as a transition plant, buffer planting, or naturalizing plant for arid regions; it also makes an effective barrier or seasonal screen in xeric landscapes.
- C *Acacia constricta* A. Gray var. *paucispina* E. Wooton & P. Standley, Spineless Mescat Acacia, is a variety with few or no spines, which may make it preferable to the species type in cultivated landscapes, unless use as a barrier is intended; the specific epithet refers to the constricted seed pods, while the variety name refers to the lack of spines.

Acacia rigidula A. Gray

Black-Bush Acacia

(*Acacia amentacea*, *Acacia vernicosa*, *Acaciopsis rigidula*)

- C *Acacia rigidula* is also known as Catclaw, Chaparro Prieta, or Gavia; Black-Bush Acacia naturally forms a multi-stem shrub or small deciduous to semi-evergreen tree, 5N to 15N tall; with care, it can be trained to a multiple or single trunk habit; on young trees, the open irregularly rounded canopy consists of long flailing rigid branches covered in small dark green 10 long fine textured pinnately compound leaves possessing one to two pair of pinnae; the canopy becomes denser as trees age; if a shrub form is desired, plants should be pruned to enhance lateral branching and discourage legginess; individual plants may sucker to form colonies.
- C The fragrant flowers are creamy white to light yellow appearing in 20 to 30 long cylindrical spikes in spring; 30 long slender string bean-like pods follow the flowers.
- C Plants are highly adaptable, tolerating a wide range of soil textures and pH, as well as being heat, drought, and wind tolerant; this species will tolerate more irrigation than most desert dwellers and might be useful in irrigated turf areas; the pairs of straight ½ to 10 long stipular spines of this species are numerous and create a maintenance and pedestrian hazard; this species is native to Mexico, as well as South and West Texas.

- C *Acacia rigidula* it is useful in USDA zones 9(8b) to 11 for naturalizing, as a transition plant, barrier plant, or as a summer screen; the specific epithet means rigid and refers to the stiff habit of the branches.

Acacia roemeriana G. Scheele

Roemer Acacia

(*Acacia malacophylla*, *Senegalia roemeriana*)

- C *Acacia roemeriana* is also known as Catclaw, Round-Flowered Acacia, or Round-Flowered Catclaw; this shrubby deciduous *Acacia* has a multi-stem habit 6Nto 10N(rarely 15N) tall and often spreads as wide or wider than it is tall; the finely divided bipinnately compound leaves are 1½0 to 30(4 0) long; these ferny textured leaves are a darker green than many *Acacia spp.*; older trunks tend to develop scale-like bark.
- C Flowers are small ¼0 to ½0 diameter white powderpuff-like clusters; fruits are flattened leathery pods as with *A. greggii* or *A. wrightii*; pods mature from light green to reddish brown in color.
- C *Acacia roemeriana* is native to Northeast Mexico, South New Mexico, and Central to West Texas; plants are useful in USDA zone 8 to 11 arid landscapes; plant them in a sunny site with well drained soils; the short curved spines can be a hindrance to maintenance personnel and pedestrians.
- C Although its best use is probably as a naturalizing or transition plant in arid landscapes, it may also be effective as an informal background screen or soft textured foil for coarser textured desert plants; the specific epithet honors a German geologist and naturalist, named Ferdinand Roemer, who collected plants in Central Texas in the mid-1840's.

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