

Mexican Redbud

Cercis canadensis var. mexicana

Leaf Type: Deciduous

Texas Native: Yes No

Firewise: Yes No



Tree Description:

An arching, multi-trunked shrub or small tree to 20 feet tall.

Range/Site Description:

Native to the shaded canyons and slopes of extreme southwest Texas and into Mexico, Mexican rebud can also be used as a landscape tree for hot, dry locations.

Leaf:

Simple, alternate, heart-shaped, 1" to 2.5" long and wide; glossy and green; leaf edge wavy, without teeth. Twigs and petioles are wooly-hairy.

Flower:

Showy, purple to pink, pea-shaped, borne on the twigs before the leaves emerge in spring.

Fruit:

A flattened pod, 2" to 3" long, dark brown, enclosing the small, hard seeds.

Bark:

Dark gray, smooth, developing a scaly texture on older stems and trunks. Susceptible to cankers and boring insects.

Wood:

Heavy, hard, weak, dark brown in color, and of little commercial importance. Cultivated as an ornamental tree in the landscape trade.

Similar Species:

Texas redbud (*Cercis canadensis var. texana*) has larger leaves without the wavy edge.

Interesting Facts:

It has been reported that the flowers can be pickled for salads, or fried.