



WEDELIA TEXANA (ZEXMENIA HISPIDA) DEVIL'S RIVER™

OUTSTANDING FEATURES: *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ fills an important role in xeriscapes; it is a small, compact shrub with green foliage and showy orange-yellow flowers. It tolerates reflected heat well, and is a valuable addition to plant palettes for streetscapes and parking lot planters.

DESCRIPTION: *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ is a shrub that grows to 3 feet tall and wide. Its dark green leaves are about 2 inches long and 3/4 inch wide, and roughly pubescent, giving them the texture of sandpaper. The orange-yellow daisy-like flowers are about 2 inches across, and appear from April until fall. These flower heads are solitary on long peduncles that stand above the plant.

CULTURE/MAINTENANCE: The foliage of *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ is damaged in the low 20's F, but the plant grows back rapidly as soon as the weather warms up. It seems to be quite root hardy, with several plants recovering from lows of 8° F in El Paso. Even in the hot low deserts this shrub can look scruffy in the winter, so a moderate to severe pruning in early spring is recommended. Also, light summer pruning will help to promote more flower production. This plant is fast growing, reaching a size of 3 feet tall and 3 feet wide in one growing season. It seems to tolerate all soil types. It is quite drought tolerant, but can also handle abundant irrigation. *Devil's River*™ will flower on a more regular basis when given supplemental water from spring until early fall.

IDENTIFICATION: The dark green, sandpapery leaves and orange-yellow daisy-like flowers make this species easily recognizable. Some people have compared it in appearance to *Viguiera deltoidea* (Goldeneye). Although these two plants look similar, the leaves of *Devil's River*™ are a deeper green color. Also, the flowers of *Devil's River*™ are more orange than the light yellow flowers of Goldeneye. *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ is native to Texas and eastern Mexico, while *Viguiera deltoidea* is native to Arizona, southern Nevada, California and Mexico.

LANDSCAPE APPLICATION: *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ will work well in all zones of a xeriscape. For best flower production, plant in full sun and provide enough supplemental water to keep plants blooming from spring through fall. When planted in shady spots, *Devil's River*™ becomes sprawly and flowers less profusely. This shrub can be mass-planted in open spaces, or grouped at the base of tall accent plants, such as *Yucca grandiflora*, *Yucca rigida*, and *Yucca rostrata*. Because of its scruffy winter appearance, *Zexmenia hispida Devil's River*™ should be used with evergreen plants that will carry it through the winter.



PRECAUTIONS: In spite of its rough-textured foliage, *Zexmenia hispida* is susceptible to rabbit damage. For best results, plant in full sun or reflected heat. In shady locations the stems become leggy and weak. Do not fertilize this plant, as this causes unusually fast and weak growth.

SHRUB

WEDELIA TEXANA (ZEXMENIA HISPIDA)
DEVIL'S RIVER™



SHRUBS



Close up of *Zexmenia hispida*
Devil's River™ flowers.

AT A GLANCE SUMMARY

SIZE (HEIGHT x WIDTH)	3 Feet x 3 Feet
FLOWER COLOR	Orange-yellow
FLOWER SEASON	Spring, summer, fall
EXPOSURE	Full sun, reflected heat
WATER	Low to high
GROWTH RATE	Fast
HARDINESS	5° F USDA 6
PRUNING	Late winter, early spring, summer
HARDY IN THESE CITIES	Phoenix, Tucson, Palm Desert, San Diego, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas

For more information, call: toll-free (800) 840-8509 or (623) 247-8509
Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, PO Box 2500, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340-2500