

## Leucophyllum frutescens

### (Texas sage, Silver Leaf, Cenizo)

Texas barometer bush is a native of New Mexico, Texas and Mexico and is named for its ability to quickly respond to precipitation. Rain or soil moisture quickly triggers flowering, so the plants act as living barometers. Its bright blooms are purple-pink and glow against its fine, silvery oval leaves that densely line the stems. They are soft and silvery gray. The purple-pink to violet-pink, tubular, lipped flowers are relatively large and very showy. Texas barometer bush thrives in full sun and extremely well-drained limestone soils. A tolerance of limited soil fertility and sandy gravelly conditions make this a valuable shrub for arid droughty regions. It has a high tolerance to extreme heat; salt and wind make it even more useful for tough landscapes. This large shrub resembles a Mediterranean chaparral species. It is also ideal for foundations, hedges or screens.



Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**Pronunciation:** loo-koh-FIL-um froo-TESS-enz

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** Texas, Mexico

**Heat Zones:** 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

**Hardiness Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

**Uses:** Hedge, Border Plant, Mass Planting, Wildlife, Pollution Tolerant / Urban, Intensive Green Roof

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Tree Shape:** oval

**Canopy Symmetry:** Symmetrical

**Canopy Density:** Dense

**Canopy Texture:** Fine

**Height at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 m

**Spread at Maturity:** 1.5 to 3 meters

**Time to Ultimate Height:** 5 to 10 Years

#### Notes

Texas ranger shrubs are dust magnets. Needs pruning just once per year early spring.

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Flower Image

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## Botanical Description

### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Opposite

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** Less than 5

**Leaf Shape:** Ovate

**Leaf Margins:** Entire

**Leaf Textures:** Smooth

**Leaf Scent:** Pleasant

**Color(growing season):** Silver, Blue-Green

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### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Flower Type:** Solitary

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** Purple, White, Pink

**Seasons:** Summer, Fall

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### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Not Showy

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### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Capsule

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5

**Fruit Colors:** Black

**Seasons:** Summer, Fall

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Leaf Image

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### Horticulture Management

#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** Yes

**Salt Tolerance:** Good

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Neutral, Alkaline

**Water Requirements:** Moderate, Low

**Light Requirements:** Full

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#### Management

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Little needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Diseases:** Root rot

**Edible Parts:** None

**Plant Propagations:** Seed, Cutting

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Bark Image



Other Image