

Mexican Skullcap (Scutellaria)

Native Range: Pink to Mexico; Lavender to Hill Country

Sun/Shade: Prefers full sun; part shade OK

Flowers: Small Pink flowers shaped like a helmet or skull. Blooms intermittently in spring summer and fall.

Landscape Use: Good as a groundcover and looks awesome at times though sometimes looks scraggly. Is a tough survivor so don't give up on the plant easily.

Container Use: Not thought of as a container plant but can do well with proper watering, fertilization and trimming.

Size: 1' foot tall and 3' feet round within two years.

Type: Perennial that returns faithfully after freezing weather in spring.

Deer Resistance: Not Deer resistant.

Hummingbirds/Butterflies: Butterflies love it.

Drought Tolerance: Very drought tolerant but looks best with regular watering.

Soil: Not particular about soil as long as it drains well and does not remain constantly wet. Does well in rocky soil or even better with soil enhancement.

Water: Smart Watering Principle=Water well when first planted then allow to dry slightly, without wilting, then water deeply again, etc. Easy Watering Principle= Water every day the first week; every second day the second week; every third day the third week; every fourth day the fourth week; every fifth day the fifth week. A soaking rainfall should last for about two weeks worth of watering. Do not keep constantly wet.

Fertilizer: Looks even better with regular fertilization.

Maintenance Tips: Trim lightly and often with weed-eater or clippers when it is actively growing in the cooler growing seasons to keep it more compact and less woody.

Rating: Rates high as a landscape plant.

Pictures: See the plant picture book in the appropriate section.