

Chilopsis linearis

Desert Willow



Photographs by Don Ridout

LARGE SHRUB, SMALL TREE - winter deciduous.

10 - 20' high, 15' spread.

Twisting trunks and shaggy bark with age.

Leaves slender, drooping, willow-like.

Flowers large, orchid-like - April to August.

Color varies from white, pink, rose to lavender marked with purple. Violet-scented.

Native habitat: desert washes below 5000' - California deserts to Utah, New Mexico and northern Mexico.

Full sun. Tolerates temperatures well below freezing.

Requires summer irrigation (2 - 4 x / month).

Needs good drainage.

Good slope stabilizer due to rapid growth of roots.

Good wildlife cover.

Little care of any kind needed, but can be pruned.

