Ephedra californica

Desert Tea, Mormon Tea

BUSH
To 4' high.
Very small leaves in 3's.
Cones 1/2" with very short stalks.

Twigs are yellow-green when young, aging to gray-brown.

Native habitat: arid grassland, chaparral, creosote-bush scrub below 2,000' — from southern Sierra Nevada foothills to southwest California, Baja California and western Arizona.

Full sun. Needs good drainage. Very drought tolerant.







Photographs courtesy of San Diego Natural History Museum

