

COMMON NAME:
DESERT SENNA

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
CASSIA COVESII

ALSO CALLED: COUES' SENNA, RATTLE WEED, COFFEEWEED, AND SICKLE POD

FLOWER COLOR: YELLOW

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT: MULTIPLE LARGE FLOWERS ON THE END A SINGLE STEM

FLOWERING TIME: APRIL - NOVEMBER

LEAVES: COMPOUND LEAVES TWO PAIR TO FOUR PAIR

OBSERVABLE FRUIT: LONG SEED PODS

NORMAL SIZE: 18" TO 48"

OTHER LOOKALIKES: TWO-LEAVED SENNA, CHIHUAHUA SENNA, TEXAS SENNA,

NORMAL ELEVATION: 2000' TO 4000'

HABITATION: SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL DAMP AREAS

ABUNDANCE: QUITE COMMON ALONG ROADSIDES

NOTABLE DETAILS: HERBACEOUS MULTI-STEMMED PLANT WITH 2, TO 4 PAIR OF LEAVES IN A COMPOUND LEAF PATTERN WITH SEED PODS DEVELOPING ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

SPECIAL INTEREST: THERE ARE SEVERAL VARIETIES OF THIS PLANT WITH EXTREMELY DIFFERENT LEAFING PATTERNS. THE BEANS HAVE BEEN ROASTED TO MAKE A COFFEE SUBSTITUTE.