

**COMMON NAME:**  
IRONWOOD TREE

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:**  
OLNEYA TESOTA

**ALSO CALLED:** DESERT IRONWOOD AND ARIZONA IRONWOOD

**FLOWER COLOR:** PINK-PURPLE  
**FLOWER ARRANGEMENT:** COVERING THE WHOLE TREE  
**FLOWERING TIME:** APRIL-MAY  
**LEAVES:** ON STEMS, SHAPE, COLOR, AND SIZE  
**NORMAL SIZE:** UP TO 25'  
**NORMAL ELEVATION:** 2000' TO 3500'  
**HABITATION:** MOIST PLAINS OR DRY WASH EDGES  
**ABUNDANCE:** VERY COMMON

**NOTABLE DETAILS:** IT IS A TREE WITH THORNS AND SMALL COMPOUND LEAVES WITH PINK-PURPLE FLOWERS.

**SPECIAL INTEREST:** THE PINK-PURPLE FLOWERS ARE UNIQUE, AND WHEN IN FLOWER, THE LEAVES FALL OFF MAKING THE TREE ONE COLOR. IT WAS NAMED FOR ITS LACK OF LIMBERNESS, THE SPANISH "TIESO" MEANING STIFF. IT IS SAID TO LIVE AS LONG AS 1500 YEARS, SO THEY NEED TO BE PRESERVED.