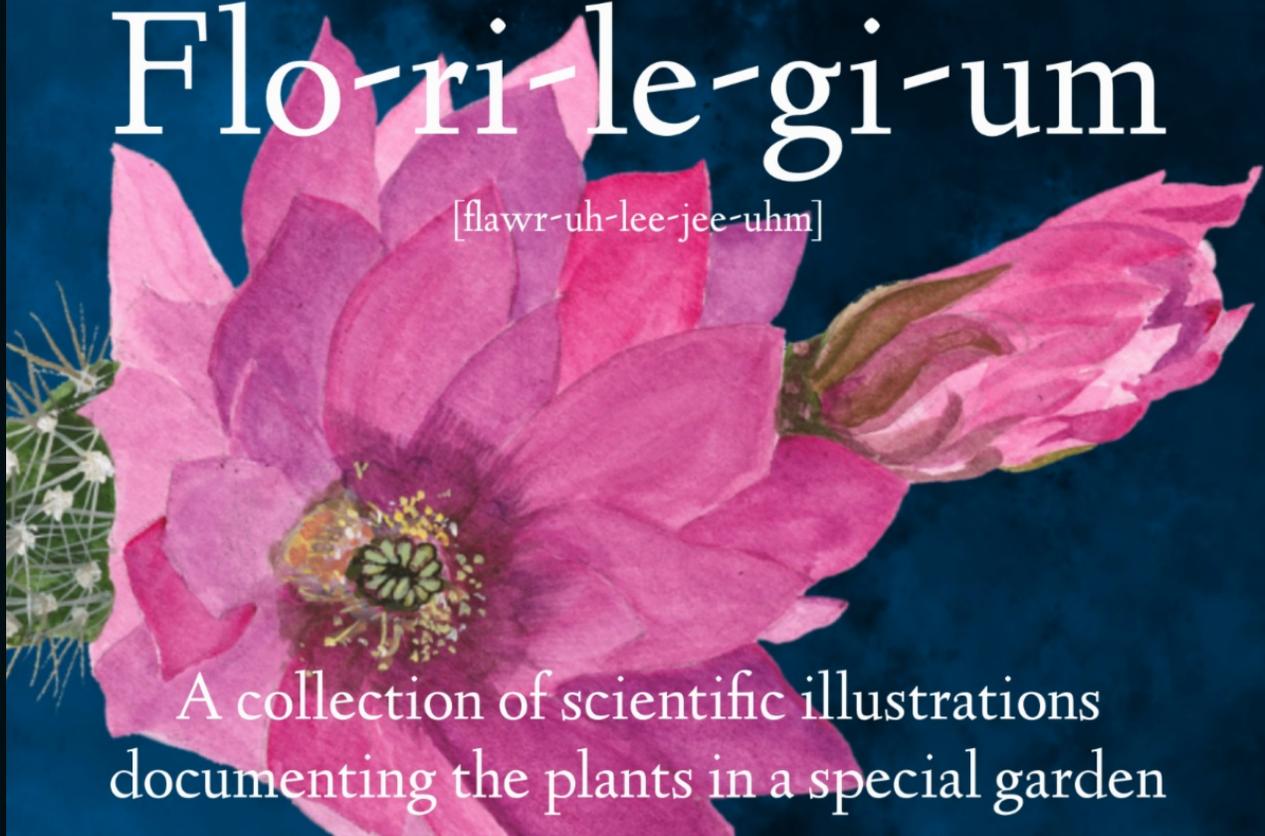




COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
CAMPUS ARBORETUM

Flori-le-gi-um

[flawr-uh-lee-jee-uhm]



A collection of scientific illustrations
documenting the plants in a special garden

20th Anniversary Events Continue

The Campus Arboretum Florilegium exhibit will reopen in a new location - the UA Special Collections Gallery. The exhibit "Inspired By Plants" presents the eccentric beauty and diversity of the Sonoran Desert plants housed in the Joseph Wood Krutch Garden.

Plants are constantly changing across seasons and throughout their life. Each species has features that make them undeniably unique and it is these features that are documented in the florilegium illustrations - showing all botanical characteristics, leaves, flowers, fruit, all at once in a single painting. These original artworks showcase the cyclic beauty of a desert plant's life, and will inspire you to take a closer look when you see one in person.

The exhibit is on display in the Special Collections Gallery, adjacent to the Main Library through summer 2023. The gallery is free and open to the public M-F 8am-5pm.

Learn more

Maria Rojas, Campus Arboretum Intern
Class of 2023

Resources to Help You Bloom into Action



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES
CAMPUS ARBORETUM
DESERT LANDSCAPES

The golden rule for sustainable landscaping is “**right plant, right place**”. Designing a landscape in the desert doesn’t have to be limited to the toughest most drought-tolerant native plants. Planting for greater diversity promotes resilience in the community, and creativity can blossom as these plant communities create microclimates that protect otherwise sensitive plants. Thoughtful planning opens up a world of possibilities by matching a plant species to the best location to ensure it thrives. Check out the The Desert Landscapes “**plant selection**” tool to discover the most suitable species for a specific environment or design.

The **Desert Landscapes** site provides guidance for design, plant selection, and sustainable management practices to help you create a lasting desert garden that benefits people, animals, and the environment, which is diverse and effortlessly beautiful!

Click here to explore information to cultivate deeper learning on all things desert gardening and restoration

<https://desertlandscaping.arizona.edu/#/>



Featured Plant: Desert Ironwood



Common Name: ironwood

Family Name: Fabaceae

Botanical Name: *Olneya tesota*

The desert ironwood is one of the strongest, largest, and longest living desert tree species. Estimates date some trees between 800 and 1,500 years old! The name comes from dense iron-like wood that will sink in water. One cubic foot of

ironwood can weigh over 60 pounds! The ironwood is considered a habitat-modifying keystone species, meaning that its existence strongly influences abundance, distribution, and survival of over 500 Sonoran Desert species. Presence of ironwood in an area can increase diversity of bird species by 63%. Ironwoods create heat-relieving microclimates that allow seedlings to establish themselves in the safety of the canopy, acting as nurse plant. In winter, underneath the canopy

can be up to 6.6°F warmer than exposed areas. In the summer, ironwood canopies can reduce soil temperature by 27°F. Ironwoods are a desert woody legume, so they have the ability to fix nitrogen and enrich the soil with nutrients. This keystone species is vital to desert ecosystems supporting a variety of plant, bird, mammal, and insect species. The multiple symbiotic relationships with ironwoods make them “resource islands” in the desert.



[Click Here to learn more and find this plant on campus](https://apps.cals.arizona.edu/arboretum/taxon.aspx?id=190)

<https://apps.cals.arizona.edu/arboretum/taxon.aspx?id=190>

Campus Arboretum Tree Tours

When it rains, it pours!

One-inch of rainfall on the roof of Old Main is equivalent to 13,500 gallons of water!

If you'd like to learn about water harvesting initiatives taken on campus:

We invite you to join the Pima Co. Master Gardeners for the

"Old Main, New Directions in Desert Landscaping" Tour



**Sunday, February 26th,
2023 at 9:30am.**

**Created as part of the
Campus Arboretum's 20th
anniversary,**

This tour highlights desert-adapted plants and water harvesting techniques to increase sustainability while preserving the beauty and educational value of the campus. Join us to learn and envision the resilience possible in the next 20 years!

Email

infoarboretum@cals.arizona.edu to RSVP for the tour.

Can't join us in person?

Explore the virtual tour here:

<https://arboretum.arizona.edu/sites/arboretum.arizona.edu/files/Old%20Main%20New%20Directions%20Booklet.pdf>

CLICK HERE TO DONATE

Promote stewardship and conservation of urban trees in Arizona.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA CAMPUS ARBORETUM

P.O. Box 210036 Tucson, AZ 85721-0036

PHONE: (520) 621-1582

E-MAIL: infoarboretum@ag.arizona.edu

WEBSITE: <http://arboretum.arizona.edu>

