

Blythe Germplasm

Desert Saltbush (*Atriplex polycarpa*)

Native Shrubs for Conservation

TUCSON PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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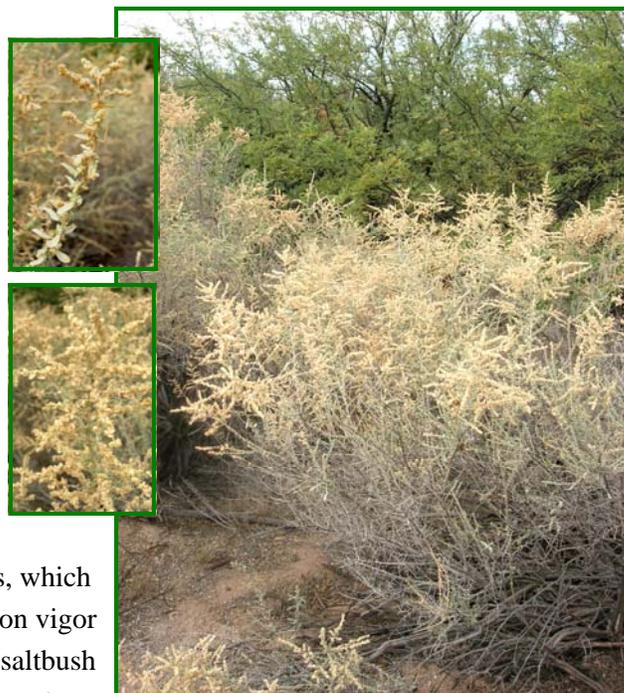
Desert saltbush is a native perennial shrub 3 to 6 feet tall. Male and female flowers occur on separate plants. The original collections for Blythe germplasm were made from a population located 10 miles north of Blythe, California along Highway 95, at an elevation of 870 ft. The plants assembled

were evaluated in two initial evaluation plantings, which were selected upon based on vigor and cover ratings. Desert saltbush is found on alkaline plains and

rocky or gravelly slopes in grasslands or desert at elevations of 400 to 3000 ft. It is found in southeastern California, southern Nevada, southwestern Utah and southwestern Arizona. It is less cold tolerant and more drought hardy than fourwing saltbush. The primary use for Blythe germplasm is for revegetation of critically disturbed sites.

Seed of Blythe germplasm for certified seed increase is available from the Tucson Plant Materials Center.

For more information on using Blythe germplasm Desert saltbush, contact the Tucson Plant Materials Center or your local NRCS office.



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