

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

growth

Fast-growing, **evergreen** tree. It has a rounded or irregular, spreading crown of many heavy, large stout branches and long, drooping twigs. Smaller branches are wiry and very slender. Grows from 33-60 ft (10-18 m) tall and may attain a diameter of 2.5 ft (0.8 m).

bark

Reddish or reddish brown on branches. The bark becomes thick and deeply furrowed into long narrow ridges on the trunk and smooth on the branches.

leaves

Stalkless; alternate; tiny scales 0.5-2 mm long, clasping at nodes but **not overlapping on twigs**.

flower

5 parted, petals white to pale pink; in spikes 2-6 cm long.

fruit

Capsules 2-4 mm long, tip tapering to a point; many seeded, seeds with tufted plumose hairs.

note

This species of Tamarix was rarely seen to escape cultivation, but has recently been shown to hybridize with other Tamarisk species.



flower color

Elevation:
100-5000 feet

Ecotypes Invaded:
Desertlands and riparian areas.

ECOLOGY & DISTRIBUTION

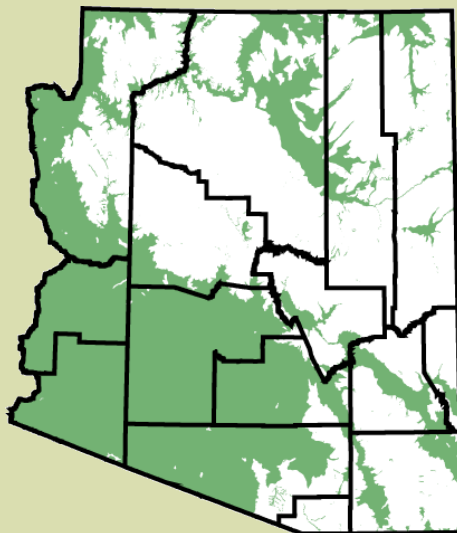
Outside of cultivation, it commonly occurs on salt flats, springs, and other saline habitats especially long streams and rivers.

Has been found along the saline portions of the lower Colorado and Gila rivers and in the Salton Sea Basin. It also grows along irrigation ditches in bottomlands.

It is drought resistant and is tolerant of alkaline and saline soils.

The minimum annual rainfall required for reasonable growth is less than 16 inches.

SUITABLE HABITAT



Suitable habitat based on the Arizona Wildlands Invasive Plant Working Group (AZ-WIPWG) assessment. Green = suitable habitat; White = unsuitable habitat; Gray = unknown. Based on Brown, Lowe & Pase (1980) vegetation communities.

