



Partridge Pea

Chamaecrista fasciculata



SPECIES PROFILE

Type:	Annual
Height:	1-3 feet
Leaves:	10-15 pair small, narrow leaflets
Flowers:	1 inch across – grow 2-4 in clusters along stem
Color:	Yellow
Bloom:	July – September
Fruit/Seeds:	1.5 -2.5 inch pods
Root depth:	14 inches
pH range:	5.5 – 7.5
Precip range:	14 – 45 inches
Shade tolerance:	Tolerant, prefers full sun
Germination:	70% within 3 weeks of soil temps at 70 degrees
Seeds / pound:	62,000
Planting depth:	¼ to ¾ inches

Partridge Pea Native Range



BENEFITS



Partridge pea is a nitrogen-fixing legume. The seed of this plant is remains in sound condition throughout winter and early spring, high in phosphorus and nitrogen value with good digestibility making it an excellent food source for quail, pheasant and other grassland birds. It is considered an important honey plant and is host to the common sulfur butterfly. The plant does have some toxicity to livestock (not deer) in large quantities.

Partridge pea is quick to establish, reseeds itself and slowly decreases over time making it very valuable in conservation plantings for early weed suppression. It is also very easy to identify early (looks like baby ferns) which can reassure cooperators that conservation seeding is taking root and usually blooms in its first season.

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