

# July 2018 Plant of the Month

## Honey Mesquite

*Prosopis glandulosa* var. *torreyana*

Plant Form: Deciduous Tree, Shrub

Water Use: Low

Mature Size: 15-25 ft. tall & wide

Exposure: Full Sun

Bloom Time: Spring (Mar-May), Summer (June-Aug)

Native to: California, SW United States, Mexico  
(between 0 - 5600 feet)

Hardiness: Cold Hardy to 0°F

Honey Mesquite is a graceful, winter-deciduous tree/shrub with multiple trunks and feathery leaves that provide cool, filtered shade from spring to fall. Yellow catkin-like flowers in spring produce nutritious, tan, pea-like seed pods in late summer that have been made into sweet flour and cakes for millennia. Bees make delicious honey from the flowers, and bacterial root partners fix nitrogen, enriching the surrounding soil. Stems develop long, paired thorns, especially on young branches. Water deeply and widely under the outermost branch tips to encourage a deep, extensive root system that can secure trees in strong winds. With its broad, rounded, weeping habit, this architectural tree is worthy as a focal point in both high and low desert gardens. Use in natural groupings to shade and cool patios and porches, or as a specimen tree.



Alliance for Water  
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For more information on low water use gardening,  
contact your local water provider or go to

[www.hdawac.org](http://www.hdawac.org)

