

## Senegalia (Acacia) greggii, Catclaw Acacia

**Category:** Shrub / Tree

### Description

Sonoran Desert MVP. Small tree with lots of character. Tough, recurved spines. Covered in deliciously scented, cream-colored flowers in spring. Provides food, shelter and nesting sites for birds and other wildlife. Excellent defensive plant for people.



Lucy's warbler foraging for insects on catclaw acacia.

Characteristics & Culture	
Size (H x W)	15 feet x 15 feet
Sonoran Desert Native?	Yes, Tucson basin and mountains
Native Elevation	Below 5000'
Hardiness	0 degrees F
Bloom Season	Spring
Blossom	Cream
Seasonality	Deciduous
Exposure	Full sun
Soils	Tolerant - most soil types are acceptable
Water	Low
Pruning	None required
Growth Rate	Slow
Reseeds	Readily

Wildlife Benefits	
Butterfly Larval Host Plant	Mexican yellow, Mimosa yellow, Reakirt's blue, Marine blue
Moth Larval Host Plant	Hubbard's small silkmoth, Tricolor buckmoth, Black witch moth, Owlet moths (3), Mesquite stinger flannel moth, Naval orange worm moth, Merry melipotis moth
Nectar Plant	Many species of native pollinators
Shelter / Nesting Site / Nest Materials for Birds	Nesting site for birds, cover for birds and other wildlife
Food for Birds	Edible seed pods

*Credit: Information is from observation as well as research compiled by Desert Survivors Native Plant Nursery (a great source for native plants in Tucson, AZ).*