# **Brittlebush**

## W-ENFA-0.25-LB

## Encelia farinosa

**What Is The? ( Seo Description 100-200 Words):** Brittlebush (Encelia farinosa) is a hardy desert shrub famed for bright yellow flowers and ash-gray foliage. Native to the Sonoran and Mojave Deserts, it grows 2–4 feet tall and wide. In spring and after rains, plants burst into golden blooms that draw bees and butterflies. Incredibly drought-tolerant, Brittlebush thrives in full sun with minimal water and prefers sandy or rocky, fast-draining soils—even bare gravel slopes. It may drop leaves during the driest times to conserve moisture. Excellent for desert landscapes, xeriscaping, and erosion control on arid slopes; low-maintenance and deer-resistant.

## **Growing Conditions**

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| **Sun Requirements (full Sun, Full Sun To Partial Shade, Shade)** | Full Sun |
| **Soil Preference** | Sandy, gravelly, or rocky soils with excellent drainage |
| **Soil Ph** | Neutral to alkaline |
| **Days To Maturity** | ≈180 days (blooms first spring if fall-planted) |
| **Height When Mature** | 2–5 ft |
| **Seeding Rate** | N/A (commonly direct seeded in restoration; ~1 oz per 500 sq ft if seeding) |
| **Planting Depth** | 1/8 inch—light cover |

### Desert Tough

Survives extreme heat and long dry periods.

### Brilliant Spring Flowers

Stunning yellow blooms transform desert landscapes.

### Great for Desert Wildlife

Nectar and pollen for desert pollinators; seeds for birds.

### Erosion Control in Arid Areas

Spreading roots stabilize sandy or rocky slopes.

### Silvery Foliage Interest

Fuzzy gray leaves add year-round contrast and texture.

## **Plant Characteristics**

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| **Sun / Shade** | Full Sun |
| **Height When Mature** | 2–5 ft |
| **Seeding Rate** | N/A |
| **Uses** | Desert landscaping, xeriscaping, slope revegetation, pollinator gardens |
| **Color** | Bright yellow flowers; silvery gray-green foliage |
| **Water** | Very Low—rainfall is usually enough |
| **Native / Introduced** | Native to Southwestern U.S. deserts |
| **Life Form** | Perennial shrub (deciduous in drought) |