

Euphorbia eriantha

Desert Poinsettia

- Family: Spurge
Genus: Euphorbia
Species: eriantha
Height: Plant is a woody perennial, approximately 12 to 24 inches tall and 8 to 12 inches wide.
Blooms: February to October
Elevation: 300 to 3,500ft.
Habitat: Gravely, dry, hot slopes, hillsides, and canyons.
Flowers: Very small, having four parts, white to pinkish. Style is reddish, bifurcated with two yellow stigma.
Fruit: Fruit is a capsule, approximately 3/16 to 1/4 inch long and 1/8 to 5/32 inch in diameter. Colour is mottled green with white, having three or four prominent white divisions.
Leaves: Leaves are long, lancate, 1 1/2 to 3 inches long, less than 1/4 inch wide. Green overall with purplish edges, prominent white midvein. Leaves are prodominently located at base of flower clusters, occasional leaves located on stems.
Range: Graham, Maricopa, Pinal, Pima, and Yuma counties.
Notes: Photos taken in North Maricopa Mountains Wilderness (Sonoran Desert National Monument) in April 2004.

References

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2. Munz, Philip A. and D.D. Keck, *A California Flora*, University of California, 1970, pp. 167-168.
3. Rickett, H.W., *Wild Flowers of the United States, vol. 4: The Southwestern States*, McGraw-Hill, 1966, p. 118.
4. Shreve, F. and I.L. Wiggins, *Vegetation and Flora of the Sonoran Desert*, Stanford University, 1964, pp. 811-812.

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