



## Artemisia tridentata Big Sagebrush

The most common sagebrush of the Southwest, this shrub is extremely aromatic, especially after a desert rainstorm. In fact, Native Americans burned the branches to produce a pungent smoke that was used to neutralize skunk odor. Big sagebrush is native to elevations of 1500 to 10,000 feet across the Great Basin, and is hardy to -30° F. We do not advise using it in low desert locations. The rough, shaggy black bark and irregular form give this plant a coarse, rugged appearance that makes it most appropriate for revegetation projects. Big sagebrush is a dense, semi-evergreen shrub that ranges in height from 2 to 8 feet, depending on the amount of animal grazing and available moisture. The hairy, silver-grey leaves are narrow and wedge-shaped, with 3 to 5 teeth at the tip. The new growth is most attractive, so for a more refined look, prune out old stems periodically. The clusters of tiny flowers are fairly inconspicuous. Use Big sagebrush in full sun and well-drained soil, and be careful not to

AT A GLANCE SUMMARY	
SIZE (H X W)	2-8 feet x 2-8 feet
FLOWER COLOR	Cream
FLOWER SEASON	Spring
EXPOSURE	Full sun
WATER	Low
GROWTH RATE	Moderate
HARDINESS	-20° F, USDA Zone 5
PRUNING	Periodically prune out old stems



**SHRUBS**