

Agave deserti
desert agave

Flowers for Bats

Why Observe?

This species is a critical source of nectar for the lesser-long nosed bats that migrate north from Mexico into Arizona every summer. Monitoring the flowering phenology of desert agave will help us understand the relationship between this species and the lesser-long nosed bat.

Data collected will be used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in conserving and protecting habitat for the lesser-long nosed bat.

Tips for Identification

Desert agave has a dusty-colored grey or greyish-blue to green color. Its succulent leaves are arranged in a rosette and are 1-2 ft. in height. The leaves have a banding pattern and are typically 10- 28 in. long and 2- 4 in. wide. The leaves will have teeth on their edges. The flowering stalk can reach up to a height of 6- 20 ft.

They are found at an elevation of 1,000- 4,000 ft. They are abundant in Arizona and California.

Be aware there is variation from individual to individual within a species, so your plant may not look exactly like the one pictured. If you are uncertain whether or not a phenophase is occurring, report a “?” for its status until it becomes clear what you are observing after subsequent visits.



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M.A. Dimmitt SEINet

Flowers or flower buds

One or more fresh open or unopened flowers or flower buds are visible on the plant. Include flower buds or inflorescences that are swelling or expanding, but do not include those that are tightly closed and not actively growing (dormant). Also do not include wilted or dried flowers.



M.A. Dimmitt SEINet
(cropped)

Open flowers

One or more open, fresh flowers are visible on the plant. Flowers are considered "open" when the reproductive parts (male stamens or female pistils) are visible between or within unfolded or open flower parts (petals, floral tubes or sepals). Do not include wilted or dried flowers.

Image Needed

email
photos@usanpn.org

Fruits

One or more fruits are visible on the plant. For *Agave deserti*, the fruit is a capsule that changes from green to tan or brown and splits open to expose the seeds. Do not include empty capsules that have already dropped all of their seeds.



Charles Webber
CalPhotos (cropped)

Ripe fruits

One or more ripe fruits are visible on the plant. For *Agave deserti*, a fruit is considered ripe when it has turned tan or brown and has split open to expose the seeds. Do not include empty capsules that have already dropped all of their seeds.

Phenophases not pictured: Recent fruit or seed drop