

BRANCHING OUT

A California Native Plant Introduction Program



Arctostaphylos insularis 'Canyon Sparkles'
Canyon Sparkles Manzanita



The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's Plant Introduction Program "Branching Out" is dedicated to increasing awareness, appreciation, and availability of outstanding California native plants for landscapes and gardens.

BOTANICAL NAME _____ *Arctostaphylos insularis*
CULTIVAR NAME _____ 'Canyon Sparkles'
COMMON NAME _____ Canyon Sparkles Manzanita
FAMILY NAME _____ Ericaceae
ORIGIN _____ A selection made by Horticulturist Dara Emery from seed of *A. insularis* collected on Santa Cruz Island by Jim Blakley.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION _____ This evergreen shrub develops an arborescent form, eventually reaching 6-8 ft tall by 6-8 ft wide. Its elliptic, medium green leaves are glossy when young. 'Canyon Sparkles' is distinguished by its large, dense clusters of white flowers in winter. Its ghostly gray bark slowly exfoliates to reveal a dark brown undercoating.
WATER REQUIREMENTS _____ Very tolerant of drought conditions in southern California.
SOIL REQUIREMENTS _____ Well-drained soils, but tolerates clayey soils.
EXPOSURE REQUIREMENTS _____ Sun to partial shade. Coastal to interior valley.
PESTS AND DISEASES _____ Many species of manzanita in landscape use are susceptible to a disease called branch dieback or stem canker caused by the fungus *Botryosphaeria ribis*. Overhead watering is known to increase the spread of this disease and should be discontinued in favor of drip irrigation. Occasional leaf spot.
HARDINESS _____ Zones 18-24
LANDSCAPE VALUE _____ The name 'Canyon Sparkles' speaks volumes. The exuberant winter bloom is truly dazzling and the unusual chalky bark provides year-round interest. A handsome upright shrub for the mixed border, woodland, or as a focal point.
PROPAGATION _____ Easily propagated from cuttings.
SALES POTENTIAL _____ There are few reliable, tall manzanitas for the garden. 'Canyon Sparkles' is easy to grow, tolerates a wide variety of conditions, and is a handsome shrub year-round. Looks good in containers.
NURSERY AVAILABILITY _____ Suncrest Nurseries (<http://www.suncrestnurseries.com/>)
Tree of Life Nursery (<http://www.treeoflifenuresery.com/>)

For more information about this program, contact the Garden at 805-682-4726, ext. 114.
Or, write to the Plant Introduction Program at 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105.



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