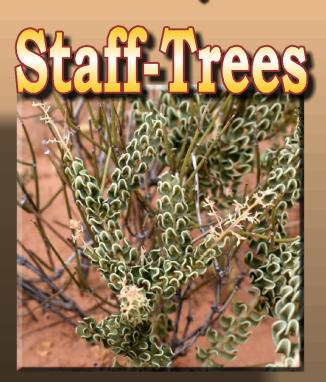
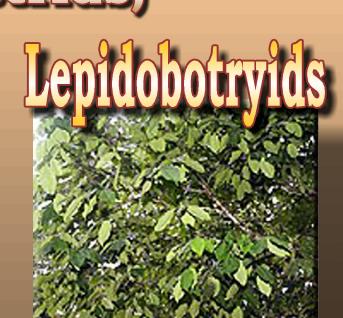
## CHASTRAILS (Celastrics)





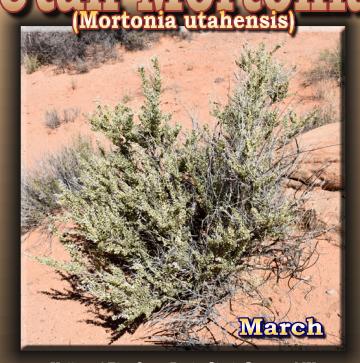
## CDIASTRACDAD (Bittersweets)



Valley of Fire SP; NV



Valley of Fire SP; NV



Valley of Fire State Park; Clark County; NV



Valley of Fire SP; NV



Valley of Fire SP; NV

Flowers: narrow paniculate inflorescence; bisexual; 5 petals, 5 sepals; white with yellow throat; .12"

Stems: upright; broom like, branched, thorny; gray woody bark; greenish white; 5'

Leaves: ovate; margins entire, white; alternate/opposite; sessile; convex, fleshy, coarsely hairy; .5"

Blooms: May to June
Range: sw US, n MEX

Habitat: dry sandy to rocky soils; bajadas, canyons, desert scrub, woodlands; Upper Sonoran Life Zone

## Notes:

rare; scabrous, evergreen perennial; grows to 5' in limey to sandy environments from s CA east to w AZ and sw UT, south into nw MEX at elevations of 3,000-7,000'; clusters of five, small, light brown nutlets bearing one straw-colored seed each; aka Sandpaper Bush, Saddlebush

Mojave presence: native

## **Comments:**

This is a rare and unusual plant that I've only encountered in the White Dunes section of the Valley of Fire State Park in Nevada, about 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas. Once you see it, it's immediately recognizable by its unusual curled-in leaves with distinctly white margins. Another population has been observed along the Old Spanish Trail near Tecopa Hot Springs.

