

Southwestern Pipevine

Aristolochia watsonii



An **extremely rare**, trailing dutchman's pipe native to Arizona. The 1" long, arrow-shaped leaves are usually dark brownish-green when growing in full sun, lighter green in less sun. The tubular funnel form flowers are about 1.5" long, green with brown spotting. This is an important host plant for the pipevine swallowtail butterfly. The caterpillars which eat the plant, flowers & fruit are protected from predators by the pipevine's toxins, which they store in their bodies without harm to themselves! Grow in full sun or part sun – must have good drainage and dry conditions. This is the only pipevine that grows in the Sonoran Desert – without it, there would be no swallowtails in that part of Arizona. In Houston, we have had success with "watsonii" by keeping it very dry between waterings.

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