

## **Rincon View**

290 S Pinto Place  
Tucson, AZ 85748

**Topic:** Trees are the Answer

### **Garden History**

I built my house in the east side of Tucson, and started gardening 27 years ago.

The plot is on virgin desert land containing some native palo verdes and cactus. Protected natives were replanted after the house was finished. The terrain is a sandbar over caliche with desert cover from duff and other decayed plant material.

The 3.3 acre plot slopes to the north with several small washes running through. Some berms and french drains were needed to protect the house from what could be minor flooding. It is a xeriscape garden and features native plants. Several 'experimental' plants bought from the Desert Garden Museum that have done quite well, including desert mountain Jasmine. There is caliche and zonal areas that are ongoing problems.

### **Garden Basics:**

**Watering:** The garden has a drip irrigation system and is supplemented with hand watering.

**Soil:** I add cactus soil mixes and organic mulches as needed.

**Fertilizer:** I don't use any chemical fertilizers.

**Pest Control:** I set traps for pack rats. I avoid chemical pest control, except in rare instances such as agave weevils.

**Gardening Philosophy:** I enjoy the sculptural shapes of desert plants. My garden is a grand experiment at best, and changes as nature demands.