Moroccan Mound Officino spurge, resin spurge,

Euphorbia resinifera

Family: Euphorbiaceae

Plant Description: Low spreading mound with brown thorns on upright, pale blue-green quadrangular stems. It contains latex. Stems crowd tightly together and spread outward in a rounded mound.



Bloom Description/Animal behavior: Blooms in spring and summer and/or late winter. Yellow flowers appear at the top of the stems.

Cultural information/Uses/Human Interaction: According to Pliny, Euphorbia is named for Euphorbus, physician of King Juba II of Numidia. One of the oldest documented medicinal plants. Its poison was used on arrow tips, but also used in medicine as a purgative. It is highly toxic and easily misused.

Distribution/Range: Native of Morocco on slopes of the Atlas mountains.

Habitat: Native growing on rocky hillsides.

Requirements: Water moderately during hot seasons, scarcely the rest of the year. Do not water when cold. It's cold resistant down to $5 - 6^{\circ}F$, but doesn't do well in continuous freezes. Prefers full sun with good drainage. Some irrigation in hottest times may be needed.

Propagation: Propagate from cuttings, while avoiding contact with yellow juices which may become irritating. Allow cutting to dry for about 10 days before planting.

Pollinator/Predator: insect pollinated.

Disease/Pathology: Poisonous. Sap can be an irritant.

Status: (endangered, CITES, watchlist etc.)

Resources:

www.botanicalonline.com
San Marcos Growers