

**KNOW THE DIFFERENCE****Native & Non-Native Necklace Pod**

The easiest way to distinguish native and non-native necklace pod is to look at the leaves. The native necklace pod has bright to deep green leaves that, at maturity, are smooth and somewhat shiny. Non-native necklace pod has fuzzy gray-green foliage. Be sure to compare mature leaves, not new ones.

**Smooth green leaves****Native Necklace Pod**

*Sophora tomentosa* var. *truncata*

Butterflies and hummingbirds are attracted to the bright yellow “pea” flowers of necklace pod. Naturally found in coastal strand and hammocks, necklace pod prefers full sun to partial shade and well-drained sandy soil with a light application of mulch. An excellent background hedge or specimen plant, native necklace pod can reach a height of 8-10 feet or more with a spread of equal size. Some growers have observed the native necklace pod to be larger, overall, than the non-native. Necklace pod is a popular flowering shrub, particularly for coastal landscapes demanding salt- and wind-tolerant plantings.

Photos by Roger Hammer, except where noted otherwise

**Fuzzy, silvery or gray-green leaves****Non-Native Necklace Pod**

*Sophora tomentosa* var. *occidentalis*

Most necklace pod sold in the landscape trade is the non-native *Sophora tomentosa* var. *occidentalis*. The leaves of this species are densely fuzzy at maturity, giving the foliage a fuzzy gray-green or silvery look.

Inset photo by S