

Arctotheca calendula (L.) Levins, Cape weed, Cape dandelion (Cover)

A low-growing perennial or sometimes annual herbaceous plant from South Africa. The leaves are pinnately lobed, variable in the degree of incision, up to 3 in. wide, green and scabrous above, white or grey-woolly beneath, petioled. The flower-heads are bright yellow, up to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. across, radiate, long-scaped, solitary, terminal or axillary. The pappus is of small translucent scales. The fruits are covered with dense silky hairs.

The original plant was received in 1963 from Sima Eliovson from South Africa. Mrs. Eliovson is a well-known author of several books on the wild flowers of South Africa, including **South African Wild Flowers for the Gardens**. The offsprings of this plant were distributed to the Foundation members at their 1965 annual meeting. In the same year they were also made available to the nurseries.

Arctotheca calendula is an extremely fast-growing ground cover. When planted 12 inches on center, it will provide a full cover within six months. This plant will grow well in less than favorable conditions, does equally well on slopes, flat areas or mounds and performs best in full sun. Establishing this plant is relatively easy as cuttings can be directly planted into the ground, or rooted cuttings from flats may be used. Frost will occasionally kill the tops but the plant will recover quite rapidly as soon as the weather warms. Plants start to flower in late February and bloom copiously in March, April and May, followed by light to moderate flowering from June to November. A well-established planting may be subject to root rot and occasionally to aphids, mites, slugs, and snails, but will usually sustain or recover from such blights without any treatment.

CALENDAR — Continued from page 60

April 29 — 9 a.m.

Sunday Morning Garden Walk

"Plants in Flower"

Armand Sarinana, superintendent

Edward Hartnagel, Assistant superintendent

May 5, 6 — 10 to 5 p.m.

South Bay Bromeliad Associates Show

May 6 — 2 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon Lecture

"Composting"

Edward Hartnagel, assistant superintendent

May 19, 20 — 10 to 5 p.m.

Silver Spur Garden Club Flower Show

June 3 — 9 a.m.

Sunday Morning Garden Walks

"Aquatic Section"

Armand Sarinana, superintendent

Edward Hartnagel, assistant superintendent

June 17 — 2 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon Lecture

"Lawns and Ground Covers"

Armand Sarinana, superintendent

Edward Hartnagel, assistant superintendent

June 22, 24 — 10 to 5 p.m.

SCBG Foundation Fiesta and Costa Verde

Flower Show

ARBORETUM WEATHER

Long. 118°02'59" W.

Lat. 34°08'48" N.

Elev. 571.28 ft.

Weather season: Oct. 1 to Sept. 30

	December	January	February
Average daily maximum temperature	64.3	66.5	71.1
Average daily minimum temperature	40.5	40.6	48.7
Highest temperature	85	82	79
Lowest temperature	29	30	40
Number of clear days	19	19	15
Number of partly cloudy days	9	6	11
Number of days with rain	3	8	10
Rain during the month	2.05	3.86	9.87
Total rain since October 1	5.90	9.76	19.63



1973. "Arctotheca calendula (L.) levins, cape weed, cape dandelion (cover)."
Lasca leaves 23, 59.

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