

Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale



***Lespedeza capitata* – Round-headed Bush Clover**

COMMON NAME: Round-headed Bush Clover

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Lespedeza* was a Spanish governor of Florida during the 18th century and *capitata* comes from Latin meaning “in heads”.

FLOWER: Creamy white with a purple spot at the base of the petal

BLOOMING PERIOD: July to September with flowers lasting about a month. Flower heads are along the upper half of stout stalks and eventually turn brown.

SIZE: The plant is about two to four feet tall.

BEHAVIOR: This native legume enriches the soil with its nitrogen fixing ability.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Needs full sun in mesic to dry conditions.

NATURAL RANGE: Florida to Texas and north to New England and Minnesota. In Wisconsin it is mostly found in western and southwestern counties.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Attracts bees, caterpillars of butterflies or moths. High in protein, attracting rabbits and deer. Seeds attract juncos and upland game birds such as wild turkeys.

SUGGESTED CARE: Drought resistant and easy to grow

COMPANION PLANTS: Black oak, hazel, flowering spurge, leadplant, starry Solomon’s plume, goats rue, pussytoes, toadflax