



Photo by Linda Foote at Mission Trails Regional Park

Common Name: Chaparral Broom

Scientific Name: *Baccharis sarothroides*

Description: Chaparral Broom grows all over in San Diego County. It is green all year and grows on a bush that has needle-like leaves. They clump together in bunches like brooms. It blooms from late spring to early winter with tiny white fluffy flowers.

The Kumeyaay used this plant as a broom to sweep the floors of their shelters. They also tied it together in tight little bundles to clean pots. They used even smaller bundles to brush their gums and teeth. They also chewed the leaves for toothaches.

You can read about this plant in *Indians of the Oaks* on pages: The exact name of this plant isn't mentioned.



Here is a close-up of Chaparral Broom in bloom.

By R.J.