

Botanical Name: Rhus ovata

Common Name: Sugar bush

Type of Plant: dicot; shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright, fairly densely branched, ascending-spreading
branches, forms a rounded to somewhat irregular shaped canopy, becomes treelike
in well watered habitats

Height 5-15' (20') Spread equal + Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full/partial sun, tolerates shade

Soil prefers well-draining, tolerates most

Hardiness hardy (zones 9-12, 14-24) thrives in warm, dry habitats

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, ovate-elliptic, 2-3" long, folded
along midvein, dark green and glossy above, paler beneath, leathery, entire

Flowers tiny, pinkish white in dense, terminal panicles; February
through May (can hybridize with R. integrifolia)

Fruit small, flattened drupe (1/8"), sticky surface

Propagation: seed

Usage: large background shrub, screen, barrier for clean, glossy
foliage and durability--slope plantings, erosion control, can be developed
into a small, multi-trunked tree

Landscape Care:

Watering occasional deep soak -- very drought tolerant after
established

Fertilizing little required

Pruning occasionally head back for fuller, dense shape-DO NOT SHEAR

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: California Family: Anacardiaceae