

Botanical Name: Liquidambar orientalis

Common Name: Oriental sweet gum

Type of Plant: dicot:tree Family Hamamelidaceae

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape Upright, pyramidal tree, becoming rounded with age; very briefly  
deciduous in Southern California, juvenile trees are evergreen

Height to 30 ft. Spread to 15 ft. Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun preferred

Soil prefers a neutral to acidic soil with good drainage

Hardiness Hardy; Zones 5-9, 14-24

Morphology:

Leaves Palmately lobed leaves to 4" across; normally 5-lobed with smaller  
lobes developing along primary ones gives a lacy effect

Flowers male flowers in terminal racemes or panicles; female flowers in  
globose heads

Fruit woody, spiny heads consisting of small capsules; persistent on tree

Propagation: seed

Usage: best used as grove or screen specimen in mass plantings; sometimes  
used as a street or lawn tree. This tree is not as aggressive as L. styraciflua  
in rooting and branch growth; good fall color in cold climates

Landscape Care:

Watering needs frequent watering, but does best where soils drain well;  
tolerates lawn watering well

Fertilizing correct chlorosis where soils are alkaline

Pruning shape lightly or head up for clearance; best if sparingly pruned

Pests/Diseases none major

Other resistant to oak root fungus

Origin: Turkey