

Botanical Name: Pittosporum viridiflorum

Common Name: Cape pittosporum

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape compact, shrub or small tree with sturdy branches and an irregular branch structure

Height to 25' Spread to 15' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil prefers a well-drained, fertile soil

Hardiness some frost (zones 15-17,20-24) prefers coastal conditions

Morphology:

Leaves simple, whorled, oblanceolate, thick and leathery, margins revolute 2-3" long, dark green foliage resembles P. tobira

Flowers December--March, dense terminal clusters of fragrant, small yellow flowers

Fruit 1/4" diameter woody capsule -- yellow to brown

Propagation: seed

Usage: small accent tree, large shrub, screen, background plant -- good in informal or formal landscapes

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers fairly dry conditions -- tolerates more water if soil is well-drained

Fertilizing balanced in spring or summer -- watch for chlorosis

Pruning head high for tree form--can be sheared

Pests/Diseases aphids, scale, sooty mold

Special Conditions

Origin: S. Africa Family: Pittosporaceae