

Botanical Name: Pittosporum tenuifolium (P. nigricans)

Common Name: Blackstem pittosporum

Type of Plant: dicot: tree/shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape upright, oval tree, with fine textured foliage, dark green color--stems are black, trunk and main branches dark and smooth

Height to 40' Spread to 20' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil prefers a well-drained soil

Hardiness some frost (zones 9,14-17,19-24)

Morphology:

Leaves simple pinnate, alternate to whorled, oblong to elliptical dark glossy green to 2" long

Flowers small purple flowers in clusters

Fruit 4-valved capsule 1/2" diameter

Propagation: seed, semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: good as a hedge, screen or background plant,--can also be used as a small, freestanding shade tree

Landscape Care:

Watering grows best with regular watering, drought tolerant when established

Fertilizing slow-release fertilizer at planting--none after established

Pruning head back frequently or shear cut to promote dense form

Pests/Diseases aphids, scale, sooty mold

Special Conditions

Origin: New Zealand Family: Pittosporaceae