

Botanical Name: Ligustrum ovalifolium

Common Name: California privet

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub Character semi-deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, vigorously growing plant, with ascending and spreading branches forming a somewhat open rounded-oval canopy; can become treelike if unpruned

Height 8' - 15' Spread equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun and warmth; tolerates shade inland

Soil tolerates most, including alkaline

Hardiness hardy (all zones): very durable in cold or hot areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, opposite, oval-elliptic, 1" - 2 1/2" long; bright green above, yellow-green beneath

Flowers white, tubular, small, in 3"-4" long terminal panicles; April - June

Fruit a small berry, bluish-black

Propagation: semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: an excellent screening or large background hedge plant; good for its durability and 'clean' appearance; formal or informal theme gardens

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers frequent deep-soak irrigation; tolerates drought

Fertilizing little needed unless the plant is heavily watered

Pruning to shape desired - selectively head back after blooming (for flower display); can be sheared

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions aggressive root system

Origin: Japan Family: Oleaceae