

Botanical Name: Xylosma congestum

Common Name: Shiny xylosma

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub/tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, loosely rounded shrub, with slender branches  
rising upward and spreading to form a graceful, fairly dense canopy if unpruned  
older plants may become treelike if trained; outer branches droop

Height 6-10' (15') Spread 3/4 to equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil prefers well-draining; tolerates most but highly alkaline

Hardiness hardy (zones 8-24); thrives in sunny mild-climate areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, ovate-elliptic; 1-3" long, bright,  
shiny green, with serrate margins; the leaves tend to drop in March-April

Flowers tiny, yellowish green, insignificant; in small axillary  
clusters

Fruit a tiny drupe

Propagation: semi-hardwood cuttings

Usage: large background mass, valued for its glossy 'clean'

foliage and loose form; is easily pruned into formal or informal hedges;

small shade tree if trained

Landscape Care:

Watering regular preferred; tolerates some drought after estab-  
lished; avoid overwatering in poorly-drained soils

Fertilizing balanced in spring, plus iron to correct chlorosis

Pruning to shape desired, anytime, as needed

Pests/Diseases spider mite, scale; foliage may show salt burn

Special Conditions

Origin: China Family: Flacourtiaceae