

Botanical Name: Quercus agrifolia

Common Name: Coast live oak, Encino

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, widely spreading tree of potentially very large size; picturesque branches develop a broadly rounded canopy; bark is rough, dark gray on mature trees

Height 25-50' (75') Spread equal or more Growth Rate rapid to mod.

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil deep loam soils preferred; tolerates most but poorly drained

Hardiness hardy (zones 7-10, 12, 14-24): prefers coast or foothills

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, oval or broadly elliptic to nearly round; very stiff, leathery, convex; glossy above, 1-3" long; margins toothed

Flowers inconspicuous: the staminate flowers in drooping catkins, the pistillate flowers solitary, mostly axillary (spring)

Fruit an acorn (nut); slender, pointed, 1"-1-1/2" long

Propagation: seed (plant directly from tree when ripe)

Usage: an excellent med. to large-sized accent tree for its branching structure; shade or street tree; develops aggressive root system in well-watered areas; has a messy leaf drop

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers an occasional deep soak; becomes drought-tolerant after established; avoid lawn watering unless drainage is excellent

Fertilizing little fertilizer is required except where freq. watered

Pruning head high and develop scaffold; thin out

Pests/Diseases young plants mostly pest free; old: root fungus, oak moth

Special Conditions

Origin: CA Family: Fagaceae