

Botanical Name: Sapindus saponaria

Common Name: Southern soapberry

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character partially deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape rounded, wide-spreading tropical tree with rough, flaking bark on trunk and major limbs

Height 20-25' Spread 20-25' Growth Rate moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full sun to partial shade

Soil any soil except very heavy clay

Hardiness some frost (zones)

Morphology:

Leaves pinnately compound, alternate, leaflets 7-9 usually elliptic -- base oblique, usually pubescent beneath

Flowers small white flowers in terminal panicles

Fruit 3/4" glossy round orange-brown drupe

Propagation: seed

Usage: small shade tree or street tree -- useful in small, informal landscapes or as a lawn tree

Landscape Care:

Watering average watering, tolerates lawn watering or drought

Fertilizing none after planting

Pruning thin occasionally - tree tends to produce brittle wood

Pests/Diseases none

Special Conditions

Origin: Trop. Amer. Family: Sapindaceae