

Botanical Name: Quercus berberidifolia

Common Name: California scrub oak

Type of Plant: dicot: shrub/tree Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape when young, is a multi-stemmed shrub with stiff branching forming a rounded canopy; with age becomes more irregular in its growth habit

Height 6' - 15' Spread equal or more Growth Rate slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors prefers full sun near the coast - tolerates some shade at inland sites

Soil thrives in dry rocky soils; tolerates most if well-draining

Hardiness hardy (zones 4-9, 14-24): best in coastal foothill areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, oval-oblong, 1/2"-1" long; surfaces rather glossy; margins vary from spiny-toothed to nearly entire (smooth)

Flowers inconspicuous, in catkins

Fruit a nut; acorn is small; rather tapered

Propagation: seed

Usage: an excellent small-scale accent tree in woodlands or

Mediterranean-climate theme gardens for its picturesque rugged branch

structure; good on slopes or dry habitats; use as informal background mass if unpruned; suitable as a bonsai

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers an occasional deep-soaking; is very drought-tolerant

Fertilizing none required

Pruning head high & develop primary branch structure; thin out as needed for more rugged & attractive shape

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions Chaparral-covered foothills of central

Origin: and So. Calif. Family: Fagaceae