### Friends of the Urban Forest Adopt-A-Yard-Tree Program

# **Tree Selection Guide 2023**

Thank you for your interest in planting trees!

This year, we're offering 13 different tree species — <u>7 California native trees</u> and <u>6 fruit trees</u> well-adapted to San Francisco's unique climate. They're all listed below, followed by pictures and a description of each tree.

Note: Species will be available at Adopt-A-Yard-Tree events on a first-come, first-served basis. This list is not updated as inventory changes.



#### California Native Species

Common & Scientific Name	Mature Size	Mature Height (H) & Spread (S)	Soil Type	Tolerates shady conditions	Watering Needs	Evergreen or Deciduous	Comments
<u>California buckeye</u> Aesculus californica	Small	H: 25 ft S: 20-30 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low	Deciduous	Atypically deciduous: loses leaves June-Feb. All parts are toxic if ingested (unless you're a squirrel); pollen is toxic to non-native bees. Beautiful spring flowers and winter silhouette. <i>Common pests: bark beetles, caterpillars</i>
<mark>California lilac</mark> Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman'	Small	H: 20 ft S: 15-20 ft	Loam or Sand	Yes	Low	Evergreen	Produces stunning blue flowers in the winter and spring. Does not like too much summer water once established, so plant well out of reach of sprinklers and water by hose only through the first dry season. Prune after flowers have faded.
<mark>Toyon</mark> Heteromeles arbutifolia	Small	H: 25 ft S: 8-15 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low	Evergreen	Also known as "California Holly." Beautiful summer flowers and red berries in the fall and winter. Do not eat the fruit, as it is potentially harmful. <i>Common pests: scales and thrips</i>
<mark>Pacific wax myrtle</mark> Morella californica	Medium	H: 30 ft S: 10-30 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low to Medium	Evergreen	This tree tolerates salt spray and wind. Its small gray or purple berry is not edible. <i>Common pests: scales, thrips, spider mites, and white flies</i>
<mark>Hollyleaf cherry</mark> Prunus ilicifolia	Small	H: 30 ft S: 10-25 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low	Evergreen	The fruit is purple or red drupe. The pits of the fruit are toxic and should not be ingested. Susceptible to root rot if over-watered. <i>Common pests: white flies</i>
<mark>California coast</mark> <u>live oak</u> Quercus agrifolia	Large	H: 70 ft S:20-70 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low	Evergreen	Iconic Bay Area tree with large, spreading canopy. Susceptible 'Sudden Oak Death' disease, indicated by a canker on the tree.
<mark>Blue elderberry</mark> Sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea	Small	H: 20 ft S: 10-20 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Low to Medium	Deciduous	It has cream-colored flowers in the spring and purple berries in the fall that are edible when ripe. Attracts birds. <i>Common pests: bean aphids,</i> <i>scales, elder borers</i>



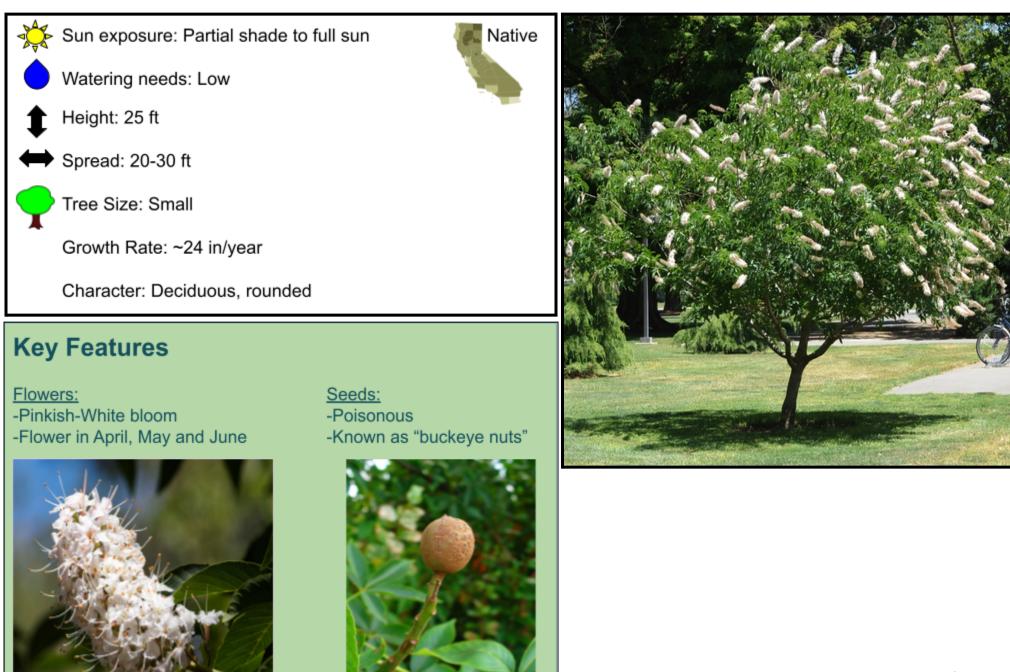
#### Non-native Fruit Species

Common & Scientific Name	Mature Size	Mature Height (H) & Spread (S)	Soil Type	Tolerates shady conditions	Watering Needs	Evergreen or Deciduous	Comments
Brown Turkey (Common Fig) Ficus carica	Small	H: 30 ft S: 10-20 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Medium	Deciduous	Usually produces two fruit crops per year - one in late spring and another in later summer. The ripe fruit is sweet with brownish-purple skin and amber-colored flesh. Fruit is edible right off of the plant. <i>Common pests: spider mites, june beetles</i>
<mark>Fuji/ Gala</mark> Malus	Small	H: 12-15 ft S: 12-15 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	No	Medium	Deciduous	Beautiful white flowers in early spring. Ripe apples in early fall. Prune the apple tree every year to get the best crop. Fruit is edible right off of the plant. <i>Common pests: aphids</i>
<mark>Hass Avocado</mark> Persea americana 'Hass'	Large	H: 40 ft S: 25-35 ft	Loam or Sand	No	Medium	Evergreen	Cross pollination increases the fruit crop (pollinators are great for this fruit's success). It fruits in Fall, Spring, or Summer. Fruit is edible right off of the plant. <i>Common pests: avocado</i> <i>mites, avocado thrips, persea mites, mealybugs</i>
<u>Japanese Loquat</u> Eribotrya japonica	Medium	H:30 ft S:15-30 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	Yes	Medium	Evergreen	Fragrant Fall-blooming flowers. Orange/yellow fruits in the Spring or Summer. Fruit is edible right off of the plant. <i>Common pests: aphids, scales, fruit flies, caterpillars</i>
<mark>Mission Olive</mark> Olea Europaea 'Mission'	Medium	H: 30 ft S: 25-30 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	No	Low	Evergreen	Beautiful ornamental tree with silver-green leaves. Olive fruits are edible if prepared properly - can be cured to eat at the table or pressed to make olive oil. <i>Common pests: scales,</i> <i>mealybugs, and white flies</i>
<mark>Japanese Plum</mark> Prunus salicina 'Santa Rosa'	Medium	H: 30 ft S: 15-20 ft	Loam or Sand or Clay	No	Medium	Deciduous	Beautiful white flowers in early spring. Fruits in the Spring or Summer. The fruit is either red, purple, yellow, or green. Fruit is edible right off of the plant.



# **California Buckeye**

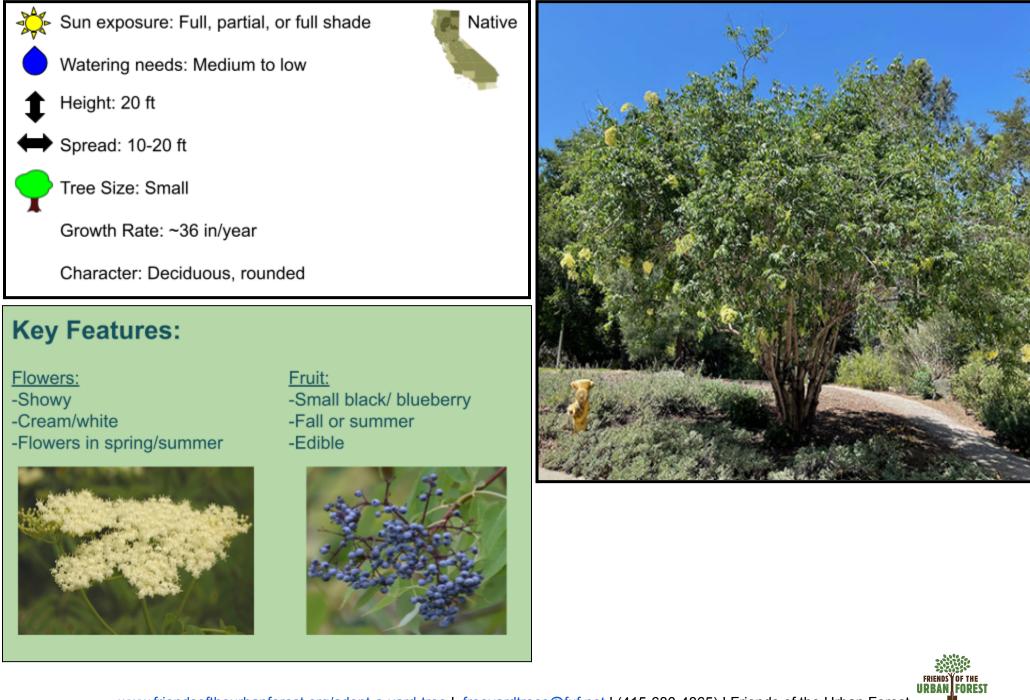
Aesculus californica





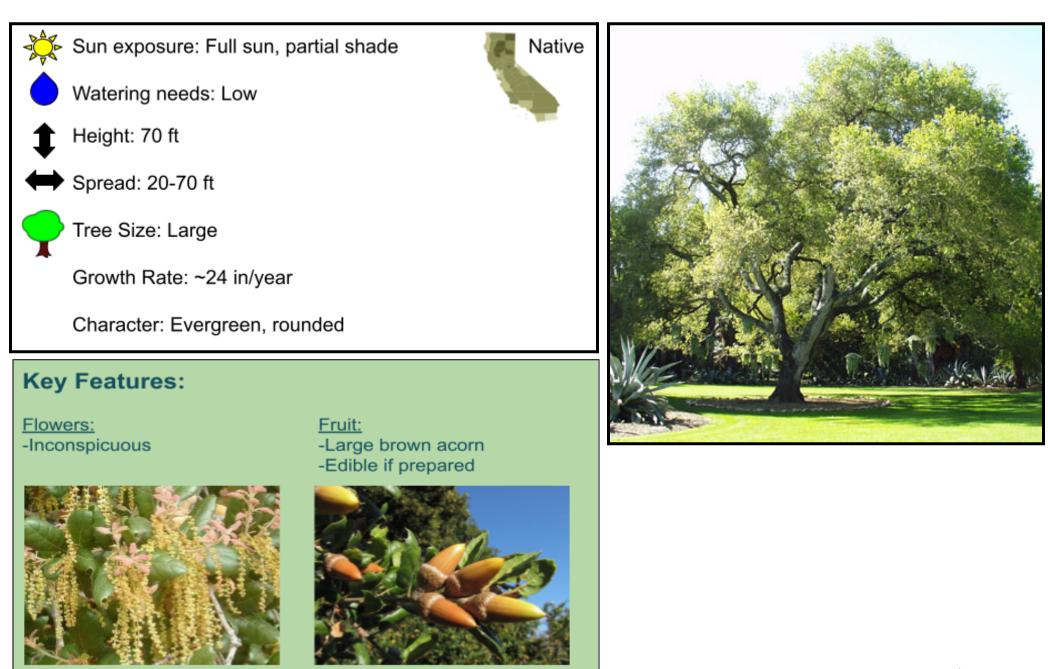
### **Blue elderberry**

Sambucus nigra ssp. Cerulea



# **California Coast live oak**

Quercus Agrifolia





# California lilac (Ray Hartman)

Ceanothus

Native



Height: 20 ft



Spread: 15-20 ft



Tree Size: Small

Watering needs: Low

Growth Rate: ~24-36 in/year

Character: Evergreen, rounded

Sun exposure: Full sun, partial sun

#### **Key Features:**

<u>Flowers:</u> -Showy, fragrant, blue -Bloom in Spring



<u>Fruit:</u> -Small, black, purple capsule -Fruit in winter or summer -Edible if prepared

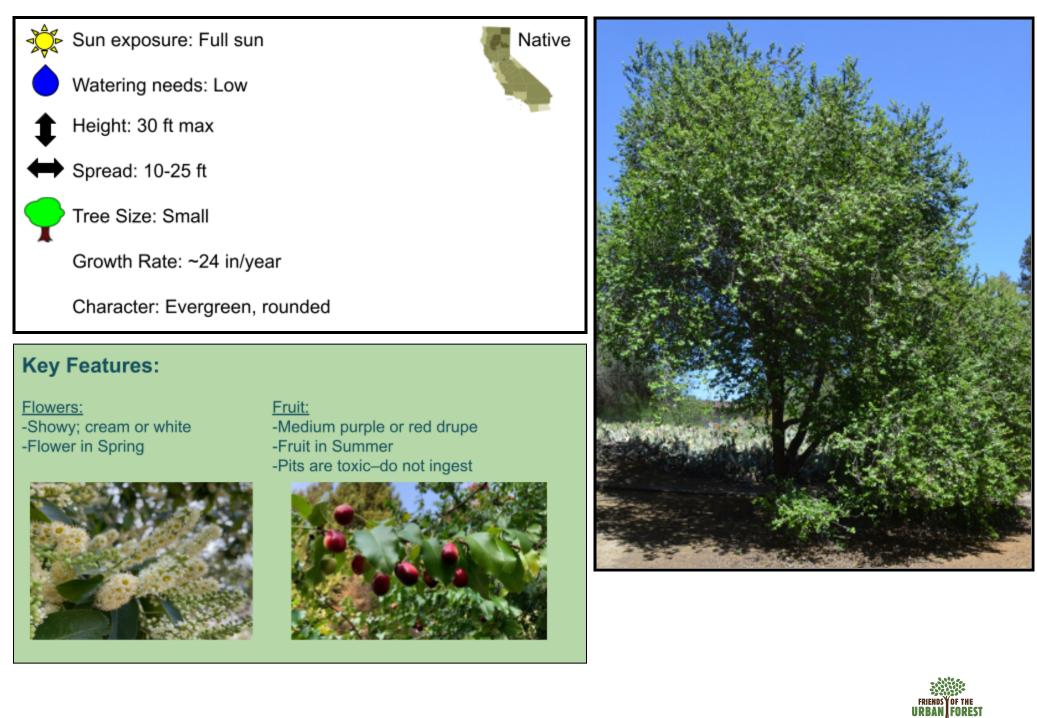






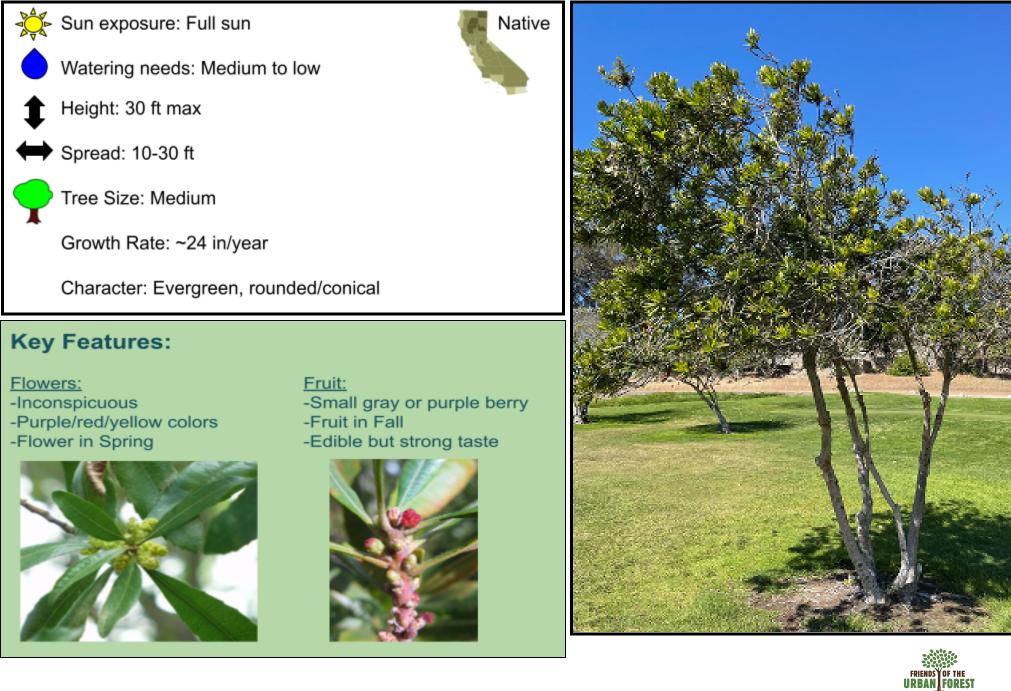
# **Hollyleaf Cherry**

Prunus ilicifolia



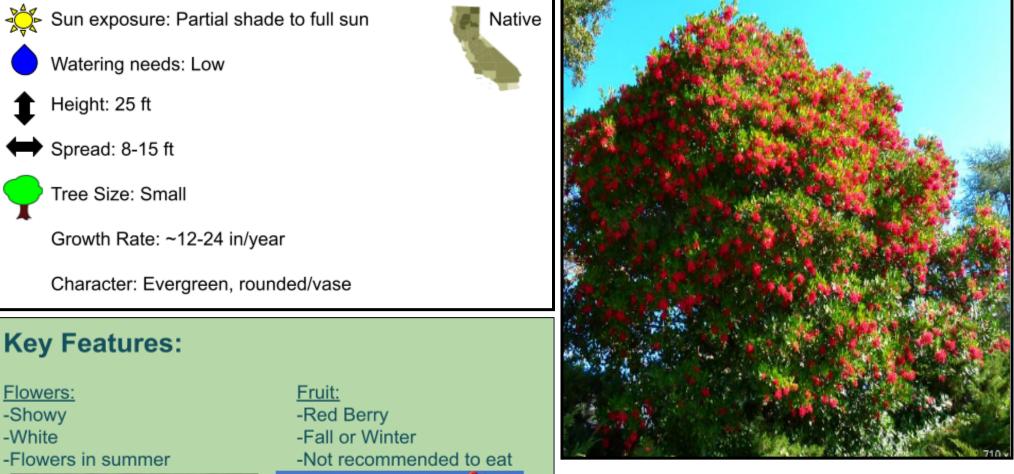
### **Pacific Wax Myrtle**

Morella Californica



### Toyon

#### Heteromeles arbutifolia



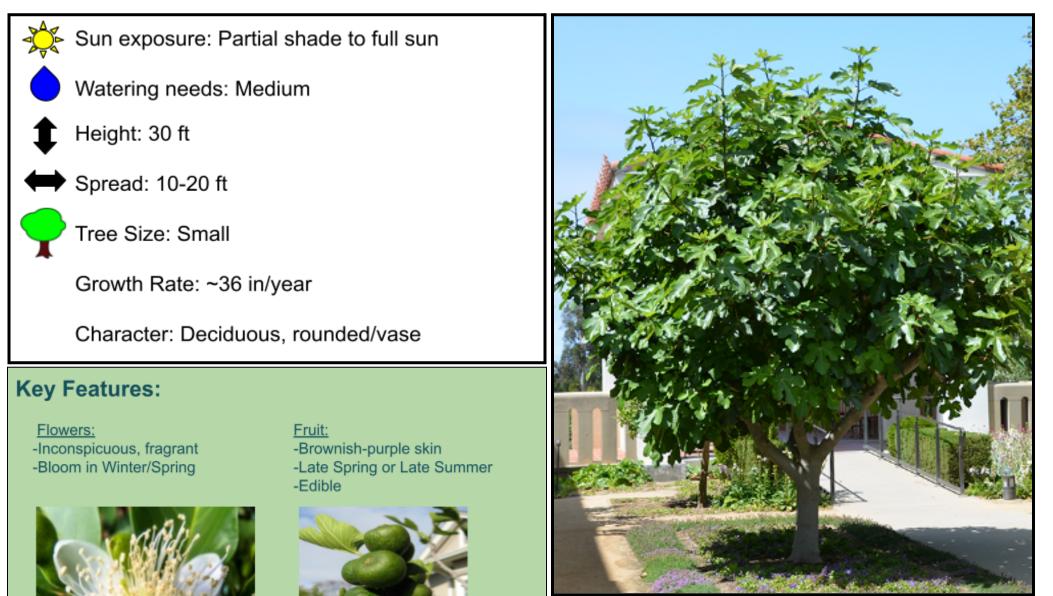






# **Brown Turkey (Common Fig)**

Ficus carica





# Fuji / Gala Apple

Malus



#### Sun exposure: Full sun

Watering needs: Medium

Height: 12-15 ft



Spread: 12-15 ft



Tree Size: Small

Growth Rate: ~13-24 in/year

Character: Deciduous; rounded, upright

#### **Key Features:**

<u>Flowers:</u> -Fragrant, white flowers -Bloom in mid/late Spring



<u>Fruit:</u> -Red fruit (apple) -Fruit in early Fall -Edible







### Hass avocado

Persea americana 'Hass'



#### Sun exposure: Full sun

Watering needs: Medium





Spread: 25-35 ft



Tree Size: Large

Growth Rate: ~36 in/year

Character: Evergreen, rounded

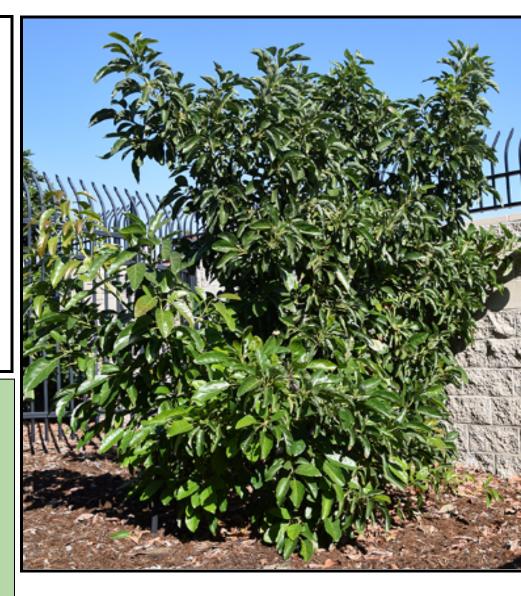
#### **Key Features:**

<u>Flowers:</u> -Inconspicuous -Yellow -Flowers in Winter



<u>Fruit:</u> -Large black or purple berry -Fall, Spring, Summer -Edible







### **Japanese Loquat**

Eriobotrya japonica



Sun exposure: Partial shade to full sun

Watering needs: Medium

Height: 30 ft



Spread: 15-30 ft

Tree Size: Medium

Growth Rate: ~36 in/year

Character: Evergreen, rounded/vase

### **Key Features:**

<u>Flowers:</u> -Showy and fragrant -White -Flowers in Fall



<u>Fruit:</u> -Large orange/yellow pome -Spring/Summer -Edible







## **Mission Olive**

Olea Europaea 'Mission'



#### Sun exposure: Full sun

Watering needs: Low





Spread: 25-30 ft



Tree Size: Medium/Large

Growth Rate: ~12 in/year

Character: Evergreen, rounded

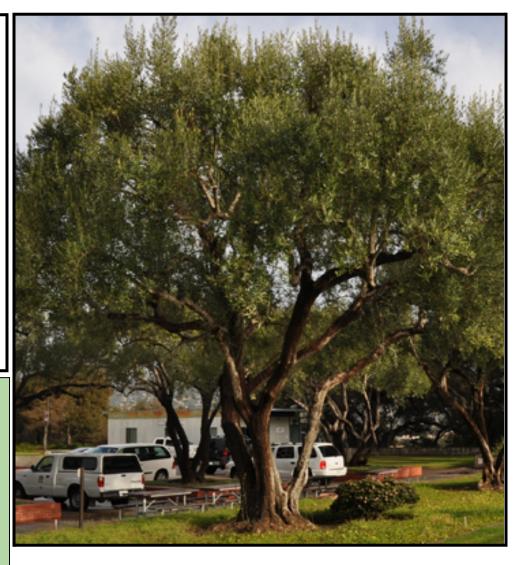
#### Key Features:

<u>Flowers:</u> -Inconspicuous and fragrant -Flowers in Spring



<u>Fruit:</u> -Medium or black purple drupe -Fruit in Fall -Edible







## **Japanese Plum**

Prunus salicina 'Santa Rosa'



#### Sun exposure: Full sun

Watering needs: Medium

Height: 30 ft



Spread: 15-20 ft

Tree Size: Medium

Growth Rate: ~36 in/year

Character: Deciduous, rounded

#### **Key Features:**

Flowers: -Showy/white -Flowers in Spring



<u>Fruit:</u> -Large to very large purple, red, yellow, or green drupe -Spring or summer -Edible







### **References and Resources**

#### **FUF Urban Tree Species Directory**

https://www.friendsoftheurbanforest.org/urban-tree-species

SelecTree https://selectree.calpoly.edu/

California Native Plant Society CalScape https://calscape.org/

#### Gardenia https://www.gardenia.net/

#### Glossary

Deciduous — A tree or shrub that sheds its leaves annually

Evergreen — A plant that retains green leaves throughout the year

Root rot — A disease that attacks the roots of trees that grow in wet or damp soil

Sudden Oak Death — A tree disease caused by a fungus-like plant pathogen. It kills most oak trees.