

Calotropis procera

(Rubber Tree; Small Crown-flower)

Large, fast growing shrub native to the Mediterranean region. It grows 4 m height with 2-3 m spreading. The stem is erected glaucous and hairy. The leaves are large, grayish-greenish in color, reaching 20-25 cm blade length. The flowers are small grouped in cluster whitish-purple color. The fruit is large, spongy glaucous green with orange seeds inside. The plant is very useful for dry area. Prefers full sun and can tolerate any kind but well drained soil. It can tolerate high amount of salt. The milky sap is toxic and may cause skin irritation. The plant is used as a medicinal plant in some regions. Calotropis procera plays an important role in improving soil fertility and improved soil water holding capacity



Plant Image

Landscape Information

Pronunciation: cal-o-TRO-pis PRO-see-ra

Plant Type: Shrub

Origin: North Africa, Middle East, India

Heat Zones: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Screen, Mass Planting, Wildlife, Erosion control

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Round

Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Medium

Height at Maturity: 3 to 5 m

Spread at Maturity: 3 to 5 meters

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Opposite

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: 10 - 20

Leaf Shape: Cordate

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Leathery

Leaf Scent: Unpleasant

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Solitary

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Orange, White

Seasons: Spring, Summer

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Fruit

Fruit Type: Pome

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 7 - 10

Fruit Colors: Green

Seasons: Spring, Summer

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: No

Salt Tolerance: Moderate

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full

Management

Toxity: Yes

Invasive Potential: No

Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: Less than 25

Edible Parts:

Pests: Caterpillars, Aphids

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

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Fruit Image



Other Image