

## Osmanthus fragrans

### (Sweet Osmanthus, fragrant Tea olive)

Sweet Tea Olive is large evergreen shrub or small tree is capable of reaching 6-8 m in height and width but is most often seen at 3-4 m high with a 2 m spread. The shiny, medium-green leaves have paler undersides and are joined from October through March by a multitude of small, but extremely fragrant, white blossoms. They perfume a large area of the landscape and can be showy in some years. The plant has a upright oval to columnar growth habit in youth. Sweet Osmanthus is ideal for use as an unclipped hedge or trained as a small tree, and should be placed where its fragrance can be enjoyed. Since the flowers are not particularly showy, people will wonder where the delightful fragrance is coming from. Sweet Osmanthus should be grown in full sun or partial shade in well-drained soil. Plants are fairly drought-tolerant once established but will perform their best with ample moisture. Needs acidic soil to grow in.



Plant Image

#### Landscape Information

**French Name:** Osmanthe fragrante, Osmanthe parfumée

**Pronunciation:** oz-MANTH-us FRAY-granz

**Plant Type:** Shrub

**Origin:** Japan, China

**Heat Zones:** 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

**Hardiness Zones:** 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

**Uses:** Screen, Hedge, Container

#### Size/Shape

**Growth Rate:** Slow

**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

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### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Opposite

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 5 - 10 cm

**Leaf Shape:** Oval

**Leaf Margins:** Spiny

**Leaf Textures:** Smooth

**Leaf Scent:** Pleasant

**Color(growing season):** Green

**Color(changing season):** Green

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### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** Pleasant

**Flower Color:** White

**Seasons:** Spring, Summer, Fall

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### Trunk

**Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage

**Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

**Trunk Esthetic Values:** Not Showy

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### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Drupe

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 1.5 - 3

**Fruit Colors:** Purple

**Seasons:** Spring

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** Yes

**Heat Tolerant:** No

**Drought Tolerant:** No

**Salt Tolerance:** Poor

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam, Sand

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Acidic

**Water Requirements:** Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Full, Part

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases:** No

**Pruning Requirement:** Little needed, to develop a strong structure

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** 25-50 years

**Edible Parts:** None

**Pests:** Nematodes, Scales

**Plant Propagations:** Cutting

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## MORE IMAGES



Bark Image