

Melia azedarach

(Chinaberry, Bead tree)

Chinaberry is a highly invasive tree with toxic berries. A rounded, deciduous tree bears thousands of tiny, lilac-pink, star-shaped sweet scented flowers. The leaves are bi-pinnate and turns yellow in the fall. Bees and other insects are visiting the flowers. Because the fruits are so tasty to birds (but poisonous to humans), the seeds are quickly spread. It grows well in any soil in any condition. Takes salt, drought and heat very well. With all of its leaf and fruit litter, it is not an ideal street tree.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Lilas des Indes, Lilas de Perse

Arabic Name: أزدרכת شائع

Plant Type: Tree

Origin: China, Japan,

Heat Zones: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Hardiness Zones: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Shade, Pollution Tolerant / Urban

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Round

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Open

Canopy Texture: Fine

Height at Maturity: 8 to 15 m

Spread at Maturity: 8 to 10 meters

Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Deciduous

Leaf Type: Bipinnately compound

Leaf Blade: Less than 5

Leaf Shape: Ovate

Leaf Margins: Serrulate, Lobate, Incised

Leaf Textures: Glossy

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Yellow

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: Over 20

Flower Type: Raceme

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: Pleasant

Flower Color: Purple

Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Single Trunk

Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Yellow

Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Good

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part, Shade

Management

Toxity: Yes

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: Yes

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: 25-50 years

Diseases: Leaf Spots

Edible Parts: None

Pests: Scales, Whitefly

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image