

Capparis spinosa

(Caper)

The caper bush is a native Mediterranean region. it can grow as low creeping shrug reaching 1 m. From may to September the plants bears pinkish white flowers that open at dawn and closes late in the afternoon. In nature the plant has many thorn but in landscape a thorn less varieties are already available. The unopened tiny flower buds are collected as caper buds and being pickled.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: câprier, câpres, fabagelle, tapana

Pronunciation: KAP-ar-iss spy-NO-suh

Plant Type: Shrub

Origin: Mediterranean basin

Heat Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11

Uses: Container, Edible, Wildlife

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Spreading

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Medium

Height at Maturity: 15 to 23 m

Spread at Maturity: 1 to 1.5 meters

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Opposite

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: Less than 5

Leaf Shape: Orbiculate

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Glossy

Leaf Scent: Unpleasant

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Capitulum

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: White, Pink

Seasons: Spring, Summer

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Generally resists breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Spines

Fruit

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 3 - 7

Fruit Colors: Red

Seasons: Spring, Summer

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Fruit 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: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Life Span: Less than 25

Edible Parts: Fruit

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

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