Schefflera arboricola
(Dwarf Schefflera)
Hawaiian or dwarf schefflera is a medium to large evergreen shrub. The glossy green leaves are hand-shaped (palmate) with seven to eleven leaflets. The leaves are waxy, succulent and green when new, becoming tan and semi-woody when old. If the leaves or stems are crushed or cut, a pungent fragrance of fresh black pepper is released. The flower and the fruit do not have any landscape importance. The plant is often used as a landscape shrub in warm, frost-free areas and as an interior plant in cooler zones. Outside, it prefers humid environments, partial sun to part shade and fertile, well-drained soil. It is moderately drought tolerant once established. It can be used as a hedge, specimen planting, or a poolside container plant. It also trains well into an espalier on the wall of a building. All parts of plant are poisonous if ingested.

### Landscape Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French Name: Arbre ombelle</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pronunciation: shef-LER-uh ar-bor-ee-KO-luh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Type: Tree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Origin: Southeastern Asia, China, Taiwan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heat Zones: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12</td>
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<td>Hardiness Zones: 9, 10, 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uses: Hedge, Specimen, Indoor, Container, Wildlife</td>
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### Size/Shape

<table>
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<th>Growth Rate: Moderate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tree Shape: Vase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canopy Symmetry: Symmetrical</td>
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<td>Canopy Density: Dense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canopy Texture: Medium</td>
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<td>Height at Maturity: 3 to 5 m</td>
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<td>Spread at Maturity: 3 to 5 meters</td>
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</table>
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**Botanical Description**

**Foliage**
- **Leaf Arrangement:** Alternate
- **Leaf Venation:** Pinnate
- **Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen
- **Leaf Type:** Palmately Compound
- **Leaf Blade:** 5 - 10 cm
- **Leaf Margins:** Entire
- **Leaf Textures:** Waxy
- **Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance
- **Color (growing season):** Green
- **Color (changing season):** Green

**Flower**
- **Flower Showiness:** False
- **Flower Scent:** No Fragrance
- **Flower Color:** Green
- **Seasons:** Summer

**Trunk**
- **Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage:** Generally resists breakage
- **Number of Trunks:** Multi-Trunked

**Fruit**
- **Fruit Showiness:** True
- **Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5
- **Fruit Colors:** Orange
- **Seasons:** Summer
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**Horticulture Management**

**Tolerance**
- Frost Tolerant: Yes
- Drought Tolerant: Yes

**Requirements**
- Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand
- Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline
- Water Requirements: Moderate
- Light Requirements: Part, Shade

**Management**
- Toxity: Yes
- Invasive Potential: No
- Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No
- Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all
- Fruit/Leaves/Flowers litter: No
- Surface Rooting: Yes
- Life Span: 25-50 years
- Edible Parts:
- Pests: Mites, Scales
- Plant Propagations: Cutting