

Schefflera actinophylla

(Umbrella-Tree, Octopus tree)

Octopus or umbrella tree is a large shrub or a small tree. This tender plant used many times as an interior or house plants. It is growing a multi trunks with grouped leaves end of each trunk. The leaves are compound, large and shiny. Many red flowers are produced in late summer always above the canopy. Later on purple drupe fruit appear. It has to be grown in a frost free zones, prefers full sun or partial shade. it can tolerate drought and poor soil condition. It takes container condition very well. Can be considered as invasive in hot areas.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Arbre ombrelle

Arabic Name: شغلرا آكتينوفيللا

Pronunciation: shef-LEER-uh ack-tin-oh-FILL-uh

Plant Type: Tree

Origin: Melanesia, Australia

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

Hardiness Zones: 10, 11, 12, 13

Uses: Screen, Specimen, Container, Shade

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast

Tree Shape: Vase

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular

Canopy Density: Medium

Canopy Texture: Coarse

Height at Maturity: 8 to 15 m

Spread at Maturity: 5 to 8 meters

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Palmately Compound

Leaf Blade: 20 - 30

Leaf Shape: Oblong

Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Glossy, Coarse

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Green

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: Over 20

Flower Type: Panicle

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragrance

Flower Color: Red

Seasons: Summer, Fall

Trunk

Trunk Susceptibility to Breakage: Suspected to breakage

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked

Trunk Esthetic Values: Not Showy

Fruit

Fruit Type: Drupe

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Red, Purple

Seasons: Summer, Fall

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No

Heat Tolerant: Yes

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Moderate

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Loam, Sand

Soil Ph Requirements: Acidic, Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements: Full, Part

Management

Invasive Potential: Yes

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No

Pruning Requirement: Needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: Yes

Life Span: 25-50 years

Edible Parts: None

Pests: Mites, Scales

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting, Layering

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Fruit Image



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Bark Image



Other Image