

African Sumac (Common Name)

Searsia lancea (Scientific Name)



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 20 – 35'

Annual Growth Rate: 24" d

Powerline Friendly: 30'

Root Damage Potential: Low



Leaves: Trifoliate leaf, leaflets are narrow and lanceolate to 4 inches in length, light green when young to dark green when mature; medium texture.

Flowers: Flowers green-yellowish, musty fragrance, inconspicuous

ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: Low

Edible Fruit Producing: Yes

Allergenic: Moderate

BVOC Emissions: Low

Sonoran Desert Native: No

Invasive Species: Yes



Tree Care: Full sun, no shade; tolerant of soil alkalinity; Infrequent deep summer irrigations in desert areas. Prune to establish and maintain an upright and arborescent crown architecture.

Ecosystem Services: Game animals eat the leaves as a food source for them in times of drought. The sweetly scented flowers attract bees and other insects to them. Provides natural soil stabilization and increasing infiltration of rainwater into the soil, thus reducing erosion and raising the ground water table. The fruits are edible and were once used as an important ingredient of mead or honey beer.

