

Oleander (Common Name)

Nerium oleander (Scientific Name)



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 10' – 15' wide

Annual Growth Rate: 24" – 36"

Powerline Friendly: 10' – 20' from base

Root Damage Potential: Low

Leaves: Paris of three, thick and leathery, dark green, narrow lanceolate, 2.0-8.3" long and 1-3.5 cm broad.

Flowers: Flowers grow in clusters at the end of each branch; they are white, pink to red, .98-1.97" diameter, with a deeply 5-lobed fringed.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: Low

Edible Fruit Producing: No

Allergenic: Low

BVOC Emissions: Moderate

Sonoran Desert Native: No

Invasive Species: No



Tree Care: Minimal care is needed. Watering in dry periods promotes a greener appearance. Avoid over-watering as the leaves will yellow. In poorer soils, fertilizing in spring can be good, however after establishment fertilizer is not needed. Prune damaged or diseased limbs, or to shape in the fall.

Ecosystem Services: Despite its well-recognized toxic potential, oleander has been used for centuries in traditional medicine for diverse ailments such as cardiac illnesses, asthma, corns, cancer, and epilepsy.

