Glossy Privet

Ligustrum lucidum



Glossy Privet foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Tree Ligustrum, Chinese Privet, Broad-leaf Privet

Description:

An attractive tree form with waxy, pointed green leaves that are folded upward at the midrib, and very glossy; this tree attains a rounded shape as it ages; stunning panicles of white flowers in spring; drupes are quite messy and will stain walkways

Ornamental Features

Glossy Privet features showy panicles of white flowers at the ends of the branches in late summer. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage which emerges lime green in spring. The glossy pointy leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter. The fruits are showy black drupes displayed in late fall. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up.

Landscape Attributes

Glossy Privet is an evergreen tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Messy

Glossy Privet is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Vertical Accent

Planting & Growing

Glossy Privet will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 3 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America.