Little Sur Coffeeberry

Rhamnus californica 'Little Sur'



Little Sur Coffeeberry
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Frangula californica

Description:

A very neat and compact selection that takes pruning well; ideal for small gardens, or as a low hedge; rich dark green foliage all year; flowers are inconspicuous, but red berries will ripen to black; tough and adaptable



Little Sur Coffeeberry foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Little Sur Coffeeberry is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries with deep purple blush from early to mid summer, which fade to black over time. It has dark green evergreen foliage. The oval leaves remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Little Sur Coffeeberry is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Little Sur Coffeeberry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Little Sur Coffeeberry will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It has a low canopy. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.