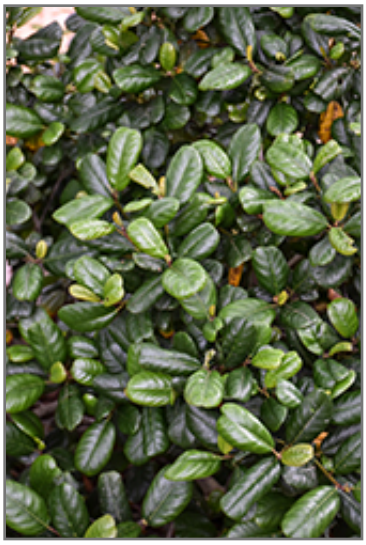
Leatherleaf Coffeeberry

Rhamnus californica 'Leatherleaf'



Leatherleaf Coffeeberry foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Frangula californica

Description:

A bushy, compact selection that takes pruning well; ideal for landscape borders, or as a hedge; rich dark green foliage is leathery and glossy; flowers are inconspicuous, but red berries will ripen to black; tough and adaptable

Ornamental Features

Leatherleaf Coffeeberry is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from mid summer to early fall, which fade to black over time. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.



Leatherleaf Coffeeberry
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Leatherleaf 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.

Leatherleaf Coffeeberry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Leatherleaf Coffeeberry will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. 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 is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. This plant does not require much in the way of fertilizing once established. 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.