

Brazilian Pepper Tree (Common Name)

Schinus terebinthifolius (Scientific Name)



PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 15' – 30' wide

Annual Growth Rate: 24"

Powerline Friendly: 15' – 30' from base

Root Damage Potential: Moderate

Leaves: Compound leaves with generally 7 (3-15) leaflets ranging from 1 to 4" long and 0.4-1.4" wide.

Flowers: Tiny flowers occur up to 5" long.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: N/A

Edible Fruit Producing: Yes, dried drupes are often sold pink as peppercorns. Like that of the Peruvian Pepper Tree.

Allergenic: N/A

BVOC Emissions: Moderate

Sonoran Desert Native: No

Invasive Species: Yes



Tree Care: Plant in full sun in well-drained soil. Infrequent watering promotes growth. Prune frequently to form and shape, as well as to elevate the canopy and remove thickets.

Ecosystem services: Several bird species are known to eat the fruit regularly. Brazilian pepper stands are used by many types of animals. Brazilian pepper leaves and berries are used in decorations including Christmas wreaths. A resin of Brazilian pepper is reportedly used to preserve fishing lines and nets. In many areas, extracts of Brazilian pepper are used as medicine. Morton lists many possible medicinal uses of Brazilian pepper including use as an antiseptic, relief of respiratory problems, and

treatment of arthritis and muscular and tendon complaints. Several investigations have shown Brazilian pepper to have antibacterial, antifungal, and antioxidant properties. Although Brazilian pepper is not useful as a pulp wood, it is used in toothpicks, posts, railway ties, and construction.

