



Expanding Tree Diversity in Hawai'i's Landscapes: *Alahe'e, Psydrax odorata*

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Native to Hawai'i, this small tree or shrub grows up to 30 feet tall, with a canopy spread usually under 10 feet. Small, fragrant white flowers and evergreen foliage make it a great choice for a courtyard or entryway tree. Alahe'e is also great substitute for mock orange as a hedge. It is very hardy and can survive in a variety of conditions, making it suitable for container or rooftop plantings. When it is grown from seed, its canopy can be dense or open-crowned.

Recommended Use in Landscapes

- Specimen tree
- Evergreen foliage accent
- Screen or windbreak
- Courtyard or entry tree
- Hedges

Distribution

Indigenous to Hawai'i, Micronesia, New Caledonia, and New Hebrides.

Propagation Techniques

- Propagated by seed and (rarely) by cuttings
- Cuttings (when successful) tend to grow horizontally
- Regularly attacked by native weevil; spray plant once flowers are gone for control

Cultural Requirements and Tolerance

- Well-drained soil
- Full to partial sun
- Can be pruned into a tree or hedge form



- Wind, drought, and salt tolerant
- Grows well in containers

Flower and Fruit Characteristics

- Small, fragrant white flowers
- Black leathery fruits

Leaf Characteristics

- Glossy dark green upper surface
- Oval to lance shaped

Advantages for Use in Landscapes

- Will do well in the problematic areas of the landscape
- Very hardy
- Suitable for containers and roof gardens
- Native plant

Disadvantages for Use in Landscapes

- Susceptible to scale, mealybugs, thrips, aphids, and black mold
- Attacked by native seed weevils

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