

Botanical Name: *Laurus nobilis*

Common Name: Sweet Bay

LAW-rus no-BIL-iss

TREE/SHRUB



Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

Family: Lauraceae

Origin: Southern Mediterranean region

Climate Zone: USDA 8-11, Sunset 5-9, 12-24

Mature Height: 12-20 feet

Mature Width: 10-15 feet

Plant Type: Evergreen

Growth Habit: Compact, upright, cone shaped

Growth Rate: Slow

Flower Color/Details: Small, golden bells

Flower Season: Early spring

Bark: Gray

Fruit: Deep purple to black, ½-1 inch diameter

Foliage: Glossy, dark green, leathery, aromatic, pointed leaves widely used in cooking

Use: Focal specimen, screen or hedge, large background shrub, small tree, container

Floral: Filler in arrangements, wreaths

Wildlife/Beneficials: Attracts bees, birds

Deer Resistant: Yes

Fire Resistant: Yes

Medicinal Uses/Edible: Culinary herb

Adverse Factors: Unknown

Soil: Adaptable, good drainage

Exposure: Full sun to light shade

Water Requirements: Low; drought-tolerant

WUCOLS Water Needs: L L L L M M

UC Davis Arboretum All-Star: No

Description: Sweet Bay is beautiful and versatile, providing a strong presence in the landscape.

As a small tree, can fill a shady spot under a larger tree or along a wall or fence. As a tree can provide dense shade. Also referred to as Grecian Laurel.

Maintenance: Maintain with annual pruning, when grown in a container. Thin immediately after spring bloom, creating good air circulation by opening the canopy. Prune out suckers. No need to fertilize.



#5 Nursery Container