



Pittosporum

(Pittosporaceae family)

Evergreen Shrubs and Trees



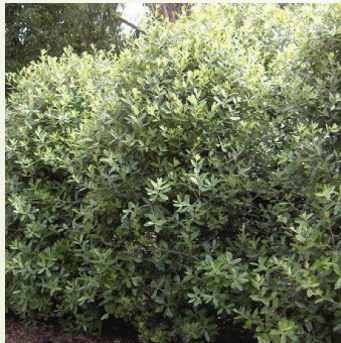
Brief overview by Stephen Barnes

Pittosporum

A family of flowering plants. The family includes approximately 200–240 species of dioecious trees, shrubs, and vine-like plants in 9 genera. The species of Pittosporaceae range from tropical to temperate climates of the Afrotropical, Indomalayan, Oceanian, and Australasian realms.

Members of the family have long, leathery, evergreen leaves with pinnate venation, no stipules, and margins which are smooth; resin in stem ducts. Ovaries are superior, often with parietal placentation. The style is undivided and straight, and the stigma is often lobed. The flowers are typically white, blue, yellow, or reddish.

Species of the genus are commonly known as Australian laurel, Tobria, or house-blooming mock orange. Mock orange (*P. tobira*) is a popular aromatic hedge that thrives in warm climates but a handsome indoor plant elsewhere. Karo (*P. crassifolium*) often is planted as a windbreak on seacoasts. The genera *Hymenosporum*, *Bursaria*, and *Sollya* also contain ornamental species.



P. Crassifolium



P. Hymenosporum



P. Bursaria spinose

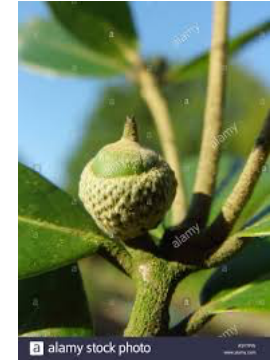


P. sollya

Pittosporum

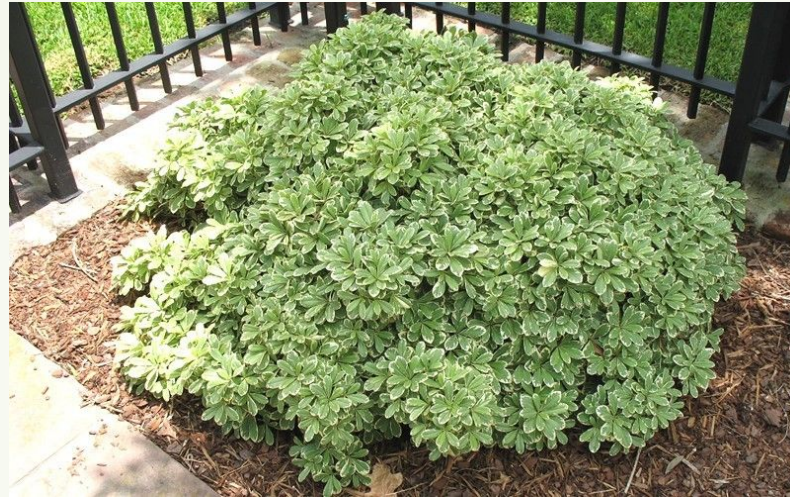
Scientific classification

Kingdom:	<u>Plantae</u>
Clade:	<u>Tracheophytes</u>
Clade:	<u>Angiosperms</u>
Clade:	<u>Eudicots</u>
Clade:	<u>Asterids</u>
Order:	<u>Apiales</u>
Family:	<u>Pittosporaceae</u>
Genus:	<u>Pittosporum</u>
Species:	<i>P. Phillyreoides</i> (weeping pittosporum)



P. phillyreoides is from inland Australia, drought and frost resilient, excellent desert species. Can be a shrub or small tree.

Pittosporum



Mojo Dwarf Variegated

- Grown for foliage and form
- Basic, dependable shrubs and trees with pleasing outlines
- Often bear small clusters of fragrant, bell-shaped flowers
- Excellent for screens, wind breaks, and hedges
- Susceptible to aphids and scale insects

Pittosporum



Pittosporum tobira (aka mock orange, Japanese cheesewood)

- Native to Eastern Mediterranean, Japan, Korea, China
- Now used throughout the world as an ornamental landscape plant
- Can grow to 33 ft. tall if left untrimmed
- Drought tolerant, hardy landscape plant
- Common pests of this plant include various aphids, mites, and leafhoppers, the cotton cushiony scale (*Icerya purchasi*), and root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne* spp.). It can be attacked by the pit-making pittosporum scale (*Planchonia arabis*). It is also vulnerable to the fungal plant pathogen *Erythricium salmomicolor*, which causes galls and the dieback disease known as pink limb blight.

Pittosporum...the enemies list



Aphid



Mite



Leafhopper



cotton cushiony
scale



Root-knot nematodes



pit-making scale

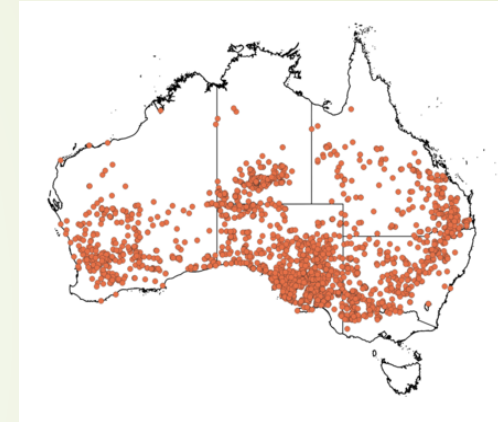
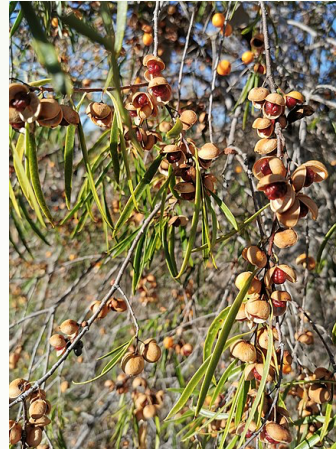


fungus: pink limb blight

Pittosporum



Pittosporum angustifolium



distribution

Native tree in inland Australia, aka gumby gumby, butterbush. Cattle often browse on the leaves. Resilient desert species that may live for over one hundred years. High medicinal value: Extracts of the plant may be used in the treatment of eczema, pruritus, internal pains, skin irritations, sprained limbs, and colds. A compress of warmed leaves is said to induce milk flow in new mothers. It also produces a chewable gum



References

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