Olea europaea

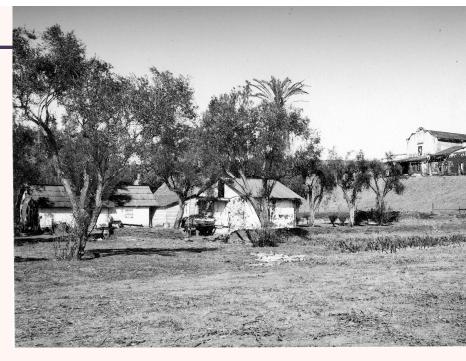
OH-lee-uh your-oh-pee-uh (COMMON OLIVE)

Family: Oleaceae (ōlē'āsē¸ē) Includes lilac, forsythia, jasmine

Wendy Hunter

Story of the Olive Tree

- > Fossil evidence indicates the olive tree had its origins 20–40 million years ago
- > First cultivated 7000 yrs ago
- ➤ Commercially grown in Crete 3000 BC



Olea europaea 'Mission'

➤ Spanish colonists —-> New World —> Missionaries —> California 1769

CHARACTERISTICS

- > Gnarled trunks, silver foliage
- > Evergreen, drought tolerant
- > Grows to about 30-40 ft
- > Full sun, well drained soil
- Does not like to sit in water



FLOWERS

- > Grow on previous years branches
- > Be careful if pruning
- Most cultivars are self sterile better fruit production with a second cultivar for cross-pollination
- Wind pollinated very allergenic strong asthma trigger



PESTS

UC IPM Home > Homes, Gardens, Landscapes, and Turf > Trees and Shrubs > Olive
How to Manage Pests

Pests in Gardens and Landscapes

More trees and shrubs

Olive—Olea europaea*
Family Oleaceae (Olive family)

- **>** Borers
- Scales
- Olive Fruit Flies

Pests and disorders of Olea europaea

Invertebrates

- American plum borer
- Armored scales
 - California red scale
 - Oleander scale
 - Olive scale
- Branch and twig borers
- Clearwing moth borers
 - Ash borer
- Cottony cushion scale
- Glassy-winged sharpshooter
- Olive fruit fly
- Psyllids
 - · Olive psyllid
- Root nematodes
- Soft scales
 - Black scale
- Whiteflies
 - Citrus whitefly

Diseases

- Bacterial leaf scorch (similar to <u>Oleander</u> leaf scorch)
- Olive knot
- Olive peacock spot (scab)
- Root and crown rot (Phytophthora root rot)
- Verticillium wilt
- Wood decay

Environmental disorders

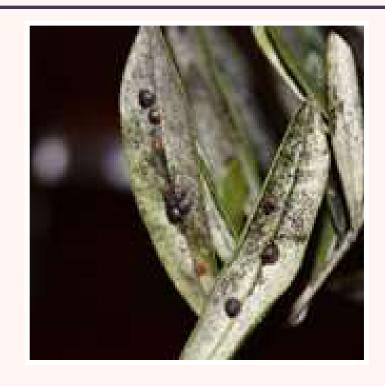
- Branch dieback
- Messy fruit
- Mineral deficiencies
- Nutrient and mineral excesses
- Poor water management

Weeds

Vertebrates

PESTS

- > Few pests
- Presence of ants or sooty mold indicate possible scale insects



> Olive tree produces lots of seeds - can become invasive itself near open areas

CULTIVARS

- Olive oil vs Table olives
- > Size, color



'Swan Hill'	Non-fruiting	Not messy, low allergen	Trademarked
'Sevillano'	Large black	Low oil content	Pollinizer for Manzanillo
'Mission'	Small pit	Cold-pressed olive oil	Cold resistant
'Manzanillo'	Easy to remove pit	Great flesh	
'Arberquina'	Self-fruiting	Aromatic oil	Hot, dry climates