



Texas Umbrella Tree *Melia azedarach 'Umbraculiformis'*

01-19



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 6-24, H1, H2	Full sun	Tolerates poor alkaline soil	Moderate watering	Loose cluster of lilac flower in spring and early summer, fragrant in the evenings	30-50 Feet

Chinaberry is a fast-growing, short-lived tree with a rounded crown that reaches about 50 ft (15.2 m) tall with a 20 ft (6.1 m) spread. The bark is reddish brown, becoming fissured on mature trees. The deciduous leaves are bipinnate (twice feather-like) and 1-2 ft (0.3-0.6 m) long. The individual leaflets, each about 2 in (5.1 cm) long and less than half as wide, are pointed at the tips and have toothed edges. In spring and early summer, Chinaberry produces masses of purplish, fragrant, star shaped flowers, each about 3/4 in (1.9 cm) in diameter, that arch or droop in 8 in (2.4 cm) panicles. They are followed by clusters of spherical, yellow fruits about 3/4 in (1.9 cm) in diameter that persist on the trees even after the leaves have fallen.

Texas umbrella Chinaberry or Texas umbrella tree (M. azedarach cv. 'Umbraculiformis') produces upward-arching branches and drooping foliage that make it look like an umbrella. The effect is further enhanced by pollarding, or pruning to a pollard, whereby the tree is cut back to its trunk or to main branches near the trunk. Regrowth then results in a thick cluster of branches all arising from where the cuts were made.

****Fruit is poisonous if ingested**