Mexican Olive (Common Name)

Cordia boissieri (Scientific Name)

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Canopy potential: 10 - 15' width

Annual Growth Rate: 24"

Powerline Friendly: 20'

Root Damage Potential: Low

Leaves: Oval shaped, bluish green, silver, or gray green in color.

Flowers: White with a yellow throat, showy, fragrant, peak bloom

spring through summer but often present year-round.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

Water Use: Low

Edible Fruit Producing: Yes

Allergenic: No

BVOC Emissions:

Sonoran Desert Native: No.

Invasive Species: No



Tree Care: Requires moisture in order to bloom. It is a messy tree, and litters flowers and fruits on the ground below. It requires training in order to achieve a tree-like form. Grows best in either full sun or partial shade and should be watered about once monthly.

Ecosystem services: In Mexico, the fruits are often made into a jelly which is used to relieve coughs and colds. The fruits are very sweet but intoxicating when eaten in excess. The leaves are used to cure rheumatism and bronchial problems (Vines 1960). Wood is made into wooden objects for everyday use.

