

PROBLEMATIC Ornamental Trees - PROCEED with caution or DO NOT Plant - UC Master Gardeners Tulare/Kings

Common name	Botanical name	Comments
Acacia	<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	Does not tolerate valley heat. Pollen produces moderate allergic reaction.
Acacia, blackwood	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Aggressive roots, brittle branches prone to break, litter. Invasive.
Wattle, Silver	<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Invasive.
Maple, Silver	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Does not tolerate valley heat. Aggressive roots, brittle branches prone to break. Chlorosis in alkaline soils. Aphids and scale insects.
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	DO NOT PLANT. Highly Invasive. Creeping roots sprout new trees. Prolific self seeding. Single tree becomes a dense thicket over time.
Silk or Mimosa Tree	<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Lots of litter (leaves, spent blooms, and pods). Prolific self seeding.
Birch, White	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Short-lived. Doesn't tolerate valley heat. Susceptible to borers and aphids.
Chinese Hackberry	<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Susceptible to Asian Woolly Hackberry Aphid (lots of honeydew)
Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i> <i>C. kousa</i> <i>C. nuttallii</i> <i>C. stolonifera</i>	Short lived in hot valley climates. Prefers acidic soil and water. Needs shade.
Draecena Palm	<i>Cordyline australis</i>	Invasive.
Olive, Russian	<i>Elageanus angustifolia</i>	Invasive, spreads easily by wildlife.
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus: red gum, blue gum, others?</i>	Leaf litter. Extremely flammable. Invasive. Prone to psyllid, borer, and beetle infestations.
Ash, Raywood	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia 'Raywoodii'</i>	Aggressive surface roots. Prone to limb breakage. Possible disease dieback.
Ash, Modesto	<i>Fraxinus velutina coriacea 'Modesto'</i>	Prone to Anthracnose disease, summer scorch, and mistletoe.
Ash, Shamel	<i>Fraxinus uhdei 'Shamel'</i>	Aggressive surface roots, poor branch structure.
Jacaranda	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	A tropical tree not suited for cold valley winters.
Privet, Glossy	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Foul flower odor, immense fruit crop stains surfaces, prolific reseeder.
Mayten	<i>Maytenus boaria</i>	Aggressive surface roots. Unwanted branches along trunk. Potentially invasive.
Mulberry, White	<i>Morus alba</i>	Female trees produce large berries that stain. Male trees produce large amounts of messy pollen. Aggressive surface roots and volunteer seedlings. Trees have branch structure that is usually mispruned causing multiple, weak branch attachments and unattractive trees.
Monterey Pine	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Short-lived in hot valley climates with lifespan of 10-15 years. Plagued by insects and diseases.
Poplar, White	<i>Populus alba</i>	Aggressive surface roots. Prone to root suckering. Attacked by several insect pests. Female trees bear masses of cotony seeds that are easily wind blown. Best suited to rural areas and borders of large properties.
Western Cottonwood	<i>Populus fremontii</i>	Aggressive surface roots. Prone to root suckering. Attacked by several insects. Female trees bear masses of cotony seeds that are easily wind blown. Best suited to rural areas and borders of large properties.
Poplar, Lombardy	<i>Populus nigra 'Italica'</i>	Aggressive surface roots. Prone to root suckering. Attacked by several insect pests. Female trees bear masses of cotony seeds that are easily wind blown. Best suited to rural areas and borders of large properties.
Quaking Aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Does not tolerate valley heat. Susceptible to borers. Aggressive surface roots. Prone to root suckering. Attacked by several insect pests. Female trees bear masses of cotony seeds that are easily wind blown. Best suited to rural areas and borders of large properties.
Pear, Aristocrat Flowering	<i>Pyrus calleryana 'Aristocrat'</i>	Extremely susceptible to fireblight and mistletoe. Messiest of the ornamental pears with respect to fruit drop. Soft, mushy fruit is inedible and drops in fall.
Purple Robe Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia x R. viscosa</i>	Profuse root suckers. Brittle branches. Long bean pods. Leaf drop in summer. Susceptible to bark split and crown rot.
Willow, Weeping	<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Huge tree that requires much water. Attracts aphids, mites, scale, and borers.
Tallow, Chinese	<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	DO NOT PLANT. Invasive, prolific self seeder. Messy; drops floral parts, seeds, and small branches.
Pepper, California	<i>Schinus molle</i>	Greedy surface roots and needs room to spread. Avoid over irrigation. Heavy limbs often break in winds. Can freeze in severe winters. Seeds spread by birds. Potentially invasive in riparian areas.
Pepper, Brazilian	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Not suited for valley climate, but occasionally seen. Prolific self seeder and potentially invasive in wildlands.
Redwood, Coastal	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Planting in the valley is risky. Trees typically perform well for 8-10 years, then may show summer stress. Prefer acid soils, cool temperatures and high humidity in summer (the opposite of valley climate). Extreme salt sensitivity causes brown leaves.
Saltcedar	<i>Tamarix chinensis</i>	DO NOT PLANT. Aggressive roots. Uses excessive water. Invasive in wildlands and efforts are underway to remove and eradicate it. Considered a fire hazard.



Compiled by M. LeStrange & C. Ronk, UC Master Gardener Program of Tulare & Kings Counties - 2011