

Thorny olive

Elaeagnus pungens

Description

Habit

Dense evergreen that is multi-stemmed and short. Grows between 3.3 and 26.3 feet tall and has a thorny appearance.

Leaves

Alternate, lanceolate with entire to wavy margins, upper surface is waxy green and scaly while lower surface is silvery and scaly, 2-4 inches in length and 2 inches wide.

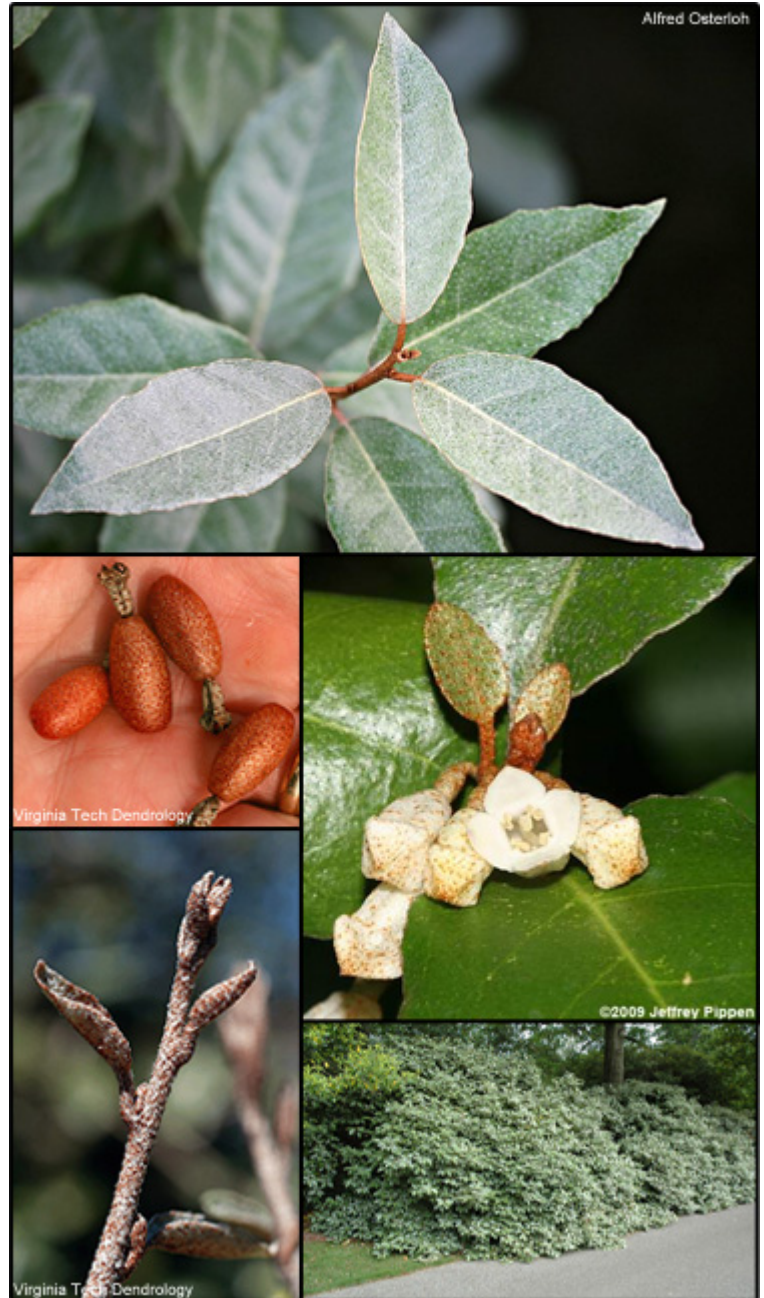
Stems

Reddish brown in color, covered with lenticels when older and smooth when young.

Flowers

1/2 to 5/8 inches long, pale yellow to white in color, bell shaped with a sweet fragrance. Borne in axillary clusters of 1-3 flowers in the fall.

Fruits and Seeds





Drupes, round and red in color with silver scales.

Habitat

Native to Japan and China. Can be found in open areas or shrublands, as well as, open slopes, along roadsides and in thickets.

Reproduction

By seed and vegetative sprouting.

Similar

Monitoring and Rapid Response

Hand removal of all plantings, aggressive tillage and/or mowing when possible (repeat as needed), foliar applications of general use herbicides (imazapyr or glyphosate) with a surfactant.

Credits

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