

## 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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