



## Fruitless Olive

**Botanic Name:** *Olea europaea*  
(non fruit bearing variety)

**Provenance:** Eastern Mediterranean

### Description

**Tree Shape:** Rounded crowns with an “airy” appearance

**Bark:** Dark and light gray, rough, scaly bark; may be single-trunked or multi-trunked; trunks often gnarled

**Foliage Type:** Evergreen

**Leaf Shape:** Long, slender gray-green leaves with silver undersides

**Flowers, Fruits and Cones:** Yellowish-white, inconspicuous flowers grow in clusters in the Spring

**Height:** 25-30 feet

**Canopy Width:** 25-30 feet

**Root Damage:** moderate



### Water Needs

Minimal

### Tolerances

Very drought tolerant; tolerates full sun and partial shade, acidic to slightly alkaline soils, dry, hot climates preferred

### Longevity

Very long-lived; fruit-bearing trees can still produce crops at 500 years. Needs pruning to maintain its willowy rounded shape.

### Diseases and Pests

Susceptible to Texas Root Rot, Armillaria

### Fun Facts

Olive trees share a long history with humans and according to archeological evidence, the olive fruit was harvested for consumption as many as 6,000 years ago. They were likely the first non-native trees in California and remain an agricultural mainstay for our state, grown for olives and olive oil.



### Location in Holmby Westwood

Fruitless Olive trees were planted on Manning Avenue between Hilgard and Malcolm in 2019.