

Peppercorn

Schinus areira



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Description

Typical height:
10 metres

Typical width:
10-15 metres

Growth rate:
Moderate to fast

Typical form:
Medium spreading evergreen
tree with somewhat irregular
habit

Origin

Peru

Characteristics

Pendulous branchlets and foliage supported on massive limbs and a stout trunk. Leaves pinnate, from 15 to 40 pairs of leaflets, fresh green in colour. Bark rough, brown to dark brown, scaly, and persistent to smaller branches, branchlets green in colour. Flowers yellow-white, profusely borne in terminal panicles. Fruit a dry drupe, ripening to a coral red colour in summer.

Tolerances

Drought and frost tolerant. Relatively tolerant of compacted soils.

Facts and Trivia

Species dioecious (berries only appear on female plants).

Popular planting adjacent to shearing sheds for a shade resource. Crown often visibly 'trimmed' to foraging height as sheep find the peppery-scented foliage quite palatable.