

California Live Oak (alt. Coast live oak)

Scientific name: *Quercus agrifolia*

Growth habit: Shrub or tree
(to 85 feet)

Duration: Perennial

Light preference: Full sun

Soil preference: Dry (variable
strata,
see notes)

Fruit type: Acorn

Plant associates: Live oak has a variety of plant associates specific to region and plant communities. It occurs with other oaks (blue, black, valley), with California bay, ceanothus, chamise, Western sycamore, manzanita and many others.

Notes: An important species in several California plant communities. Drought tolerant, hardy, often with wide spread. In different regions, *Quercus agrifolia* is found to grow in sandy soil, clay, loam or shaley clay-loam. It provides acorns and excellent hunting opportunities for insectivores. Recent diebacks have occurred due to Sudden Oak Death so adding to home landscape will help to restore tree populations.



Photo courtesy of Donald Owen, California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection at forestryimages.org

Native range: California

