Juglans californica S. Watson var. racemosa

[Juglans californica S. Watson ssp. californica, J. californica mut. quercina Babc., J. californica var. quercina Babc., J. californica forma quercina (Babc.) Rehder]

Southern California Black Walnut

Description: Broad-leaved, winter-deciduous, wind-pollinated tree to <25 m high, trunks 1-5, bark smooth to furrowed in age gray to brown, twigs brown. The leaves are odd-1-pinnate, with 11-19 leaflets, 2-8 cm long, lanceolate to ovate toothed, petals 0. The fruit [walnut] is 2-3 cm diameter including husk. The woody nut shell is \pm grooved. Blooms in April-May.

Habitat: slopes and riparian areas; 50-900 m.

Distribution: Native to southern California (Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties), Outer South Coast Ranges (Santa Lucia Mountains where perhaps cultivated); South Coast, southern Transverse Ranges (excluding northern/higher parts of Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties), northwestern Peninsular Ranges (Santa Ana Mountains).

Landscape Position: All aspects, full sun or partial shade. Hardy to USDA Zone 8.

Landscape Attributes: Provides a pale green medium texture, and is winter-deciduous. This is a small, multi-trunked tree, requiring no irrigation. Tolerates full sun or partial shade. Bark is furrowed, gray colored. Fall foliage color (yellow) adds interest and contrast to landscape. Excellent specimen tree for smaller area. Tolerant of heat and wind.

