

## Pepper Tree

<b>Genus/species</b>	<i>Schinus molle</i>
<b>Family</b>	Anacardiaceae
<b>Distribution</b>	Southwestern US                      California southeastward to W Texas
<b>Comments</b>	Introduced and naturalized in California and occasionally other areas in the southwestern US, this Pepper Tree is native to Peru. Pepper Tree has hanging compound leaves with narrow leaflets an inch or two long, and the tiny, green, rather inconspicuous male and female flowers are produced on separate trees in the summer. The small pinkish-red fruit are less than a fourth of an inch in diameter and hang in clusters in the fall and winter; these have been used in many kinds of herbal and folk medicine.

There are other species in this genus, such as the Brazilian Pepper Tree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) that has become naturalized in Florida.

