



## *Malosma laurina*, LAUREL SUMAC

The largest grower of California native plants in the state, Tree of Life Nursery has been located on the historic Rancho Mission Viejo in San Juan Capistrano for over 20 years. Largely a wholesale nursery, the *Roundhouse Plant Store* is open to the public Fridays year-round and Saturdays in fall and spring. For those interested in learning more, we offer a large selection of books on the California region regarding landscaping and horticulture, natural history, conservation, and more. The nursery's catalog, "Plants of El Camino Real," is a beautifully arranged collection of information about the plants we grow, with helpful hints for landscapers and gardeners looking for the right plant for the right place. Come experience Tree of Life for yourself!

### SIMILAR NATIVE PLANTS

*Ceanothus species*  
*Comarostaphylis diversifolia*  
*Garrya elliptica*  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*  
*Myrica californica*  
*Prunus ilicifolia*  
*Rhamnus californica*  
*Rhus integrifolia*  
*Rhus ovata*  
*Umbellularia californica*

Laurel Sumac is an aromatic, evergreen shrub member of the coastal sage scrub and chaparral communities below 3,000 feet (sensitive to frost). Its fast growth and mounding habit to 15 feet tall and wide make it an excellent candidate for erosion control on slopes. It is also a valuable ornamental as a dense screen, clipped hedge, or small, multi-trunked tree when lower branches are pruned up. Free from diseases and insect pests and highly drought tolerant, Laurel Sumac would make an excellent substitute for *Ligustrum*, *Oleander*, *Photinia*, *Pittosporum*, *Podocarpus* and *Xylosma* in conventionally designed landscapes and along roadsides. In areas where wildfire is a concern, this plant should be kept away from structures and should be well-spaced and thinned with annual pruning.

