

*Ligustrum lucidum* W. T. Aiton, CHINESE PRIVET. Tree, evergreen, several-trunked at base, in range < 10 m tall; shoots often 2-dimensional (plagiotropic) with tough leaves, glabrous and lacking appressed, umbrellalike (peltate) scales. **Stems:** cylindric but flaring below each node, tough becoming woody and stiff. **Leaves:** opposite decussate, simple, petiolate, without stipules; petiole channeled, (6–)10–23 mm long, sometimes narrowly winged approaching blade; blade ovate to broadly ovate, (30–)65–110 × (28–)40–55 mm, ± flat (scarcely folded upward from midrib), entire, acute at tip, pinnately veined with midrib slightly sunken on upper surface and raised on lower surface, upper surface semiglossy dark green. **Inflorescence:** panicle of racemelike cymes, terminal, broadly ovoid in outline, to 180 mm long having 10+ nodes along principal axis, many-flowered, with 3 orders of opposite decussate branching before ultimate flower cluster, peduncle absent with pair of primary lateral branches at base, ultimate branchlet mostly 2–5-flowered + undeveloped buds, flowers bisexual, subsessile, bracteate, completely glabrous; principal axes somewhat 4-sided or aging cylindric, the largest with lenticels; bracts subtending panicle = pair of cauline leaves, sometimes pair of branches at next node with reduced green leaves; primary lateral branches to 150 mm long, decreasing upward; bract or bractlet subtending each branchlet (2 per node), ovate, 2–2.5 mm long, thin aging orangish brown and papery, early-deciduous leaving a pair of curved scars; bract subtending 3-order branchlet ovate, 1–1.5 mm long, mostly absent at flowering; bractlet subtending flower ovate, 0.5–1 mm long, early-deciduous; pedicel < 1 mm long. **Flower:** bisexual, radial, 5–5.5 mm across, sweetly fragrant, sometimes terminal 2 flowers on an ultimate branch fused; **calyx** inconspicuously 4-lobed; tube bell-shaped, ± 1.5 mm long, light green, glabrous; **corolla** 4–5-lobed, in bud greenish white, 4.5–5 mm long; tube bell-shaped, 1 mm long, white; throat slightly flaring, ca. 1 mm long, creamy white; lobes usually subequal, acute-ovate, 2.5–3 mm long, creamy white, thickish, initially spreading aging arching, faintly 3-veined, if unequally 5-lobed 1 lobe may be wide and deeply notched; **stamens** 2(–3), fused to top of corolla tube alternate corolla lobes; filaments initially ca. 3 mm long and bent inward at tip increasing to 4 mm long and erect in old flower, white, tapered at tip; anthers dorsifixed, strongly dithecal, mostly hemispheroid with sac narrowly kidney-shaped, 2.8–3 × 1.8–2 mm, light yellow often with a wide connective initially green aging orange-red, longitudinally dehiscent; pollen light yellow, copious; **pistil** 1, ca. 4 mm long; ovary superior, top-shaped, 0.8–1 mm long, green, top shallowly 4-lobed (**nectary**) covered with thin nectar, 2-chambered, each chamber with 2 ovules; style erect, ca. 2 mm long, white; stigmas 2, exerted, ± appressed and together appearing compressed-ovoid and thickish, 1 mm long, white aging pinkish, papillate. **Fruit:** drupe, with 2-parted stone, ellipsoid, 8–8.5 × 5–5.5 mm, bluish black, minutely rough, not glaucous; pulp (mesocarp) to 1 mm thick; stone (endocarp) extremely hard, parts hemi-lanceoloid with common flat side, 6.2–6.8 × 2.5–3 mm, brown, 5-ribbed on rounded face. Early July–late August.

Waif. Evergreen tree cultivated in range escaped in adjacent shaded riparian woodland in Thousand Oaks. *Ligustrum lucidum* tends to have larger leaves than the more commonly cultivated Japanese privet, *L. japonicum*. Japanese privet is mostly a shrub, and should also be expected as an escape in range in riparian situations.

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