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*Quercus berberidifolia*

[Synonyms : *Quercus dumosa*, *Quercus dumosa* var. *elegantula*, *Quercus dumosa* var. *linearis*, *Quercus x macdonaldii* var. *elegantula*]

**CALIFORNIA SCRUB OAK** is a semi-evergreen or evergreen shrub or tree. Native to California (United States), and Mexico, holly-like leaves and pointed, pale to dark brown acorns.

It is also known as Californian scrub oak, *Chaparro* (Spanish), *Chêne buissonnant de Californie* (French), Coastal sage scrub oak, Coastal scrub oak, Coast scrub oak, *Encinillo* (Spanish), Inland scrub oak, Nuttall's scrub oak, and Scrub oak.

This tree tolerates drought. The flowers are pollinated by the wind. The fruit take 1-2 years to ripen.

*Berberidifolia* is made up of the genus name *Berberis* and Latin *-folia* (leaved) meaning 'with leaves like those of the *Berberis* genus.

Some bonsai experts believe that California scrub oak is an ideal candidate for this form of cultivation. Environmentalists have grown California scrub oak successfully on dry slopes where soil erosion needs to be curtailed.