

BRANCHING OUT

A California Native Plant Introduction Program



Aesculus californica 'Canyon Pink'
Canyon Pink California Buckeye



The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's Plant Introduction Program "Branching Out" is dedicated to increasing awareness, appreciation, and availability of outstanding California native plants for landscapes and gardens.

BOTANICAL NAME _____ *Aesculus californica*

CULTIVAR NAME _____ 'Canyon Pink'

COMMON NAME _____ Canyon Pink California Buckeye

FAMILY NAME _____ Hippocastanaceae

ORIGIN _____ A seedling selection made by Horticulturist Dara Emery from a batch of *Aesculus californica* seed collected by Dr. Robert F. Hoover in Monterey County.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION _____ A large deciduous shrub to medium tree, 15-40 ft tall and of equal or greater spread. Medium green leaves are palmately compound, with 5-7 leaflets that reach 3-6 inches across. Covered with fragrant, light pink flowers in erect clusters from May to June.

WATER REQUIREMENTS _____ Tolerates drought in southern California, but also accepts moderate summer water.

SOIL REQUIREMENTS _____ Wide soil tolerance.

EXPOSURE REQUIREMENTS _____ Best in full sun.

PESTS AND DISEASES _____ None observed. Note that all parts of this species are highly poisonous.

HARDINESS _____ Zones 3, 18-24. Hardy to 0 F. Siskiyou Mountains south to Los Angeles.

LANDSCAPE VALUE _____ 'Canyon Pink' offers the familiar attractive features of California Buckeye, with abundant showy inflorescences in spring, good tolerance to summer drought and striking light gray branches during fall and winter. Its distinct, truly pink flowers perfume the air. Shiny tan fruits add seasonal interest in late summer to fall. Adaptable, long-lived tree, requiring little care. Suitable for coastal or interior valley regions.

PROPAGATION _____ By grafting.

SALES POTENTIAL _____ An often-requested California native tree, but rarely grown due to grafting requirement.

NURSERY AVAILABILITY _____ Tree of Life Nursery (<http://www.treeoflifenuresery.com/>)

For more information about this program, contact the Garden at 805-682-4726, ext. 114 or 148. Or, write to the Plant Introduction Program at 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105.



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