



YOLO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
PROBLEM TREES TO AVOID FOR YOLO COUNTY

Many trees do not thrive in our hot climate with heavy soil and hard water. Others have bad habits, such as aggressive roots and suckering, weak wood and a tendency to produce too many seeds. Finally, there is susceptibility to disease and pests for many of the listed trees.

Separate lists of recommended trees and worthy trees with some faults are available for Yolo County.

- Acer negundo* Box elder; weak wood, box elder bugs, mistletoe.
- Acer saccharinum* Silver maple; aggressive roots, brittle, aphids, mistletoe.
- Ailanthus altissima* Tree of heaven; a weed; sprouts everywhere; males ok.
- Alvizia julibrissin* Mimosa; weak wood, mimosa wilt.
- Betula pendula* European white birch; needs afternoon shade; borers, mistletoe.
- Celtis spp* Chinese hackberry; reseeds; gets a vascular disease that may kill the tree. *C. occidentalis*, *C. australis* may get Asian wooly aphid.
- Fraxinus velutina* Modesto ash; anthracnose, mistletoe, lilac borer.
- Gleditsia tricanthos* Honey locust; gall midge defoliates in summer; pods and seeds messy; invasive.
- Ligustrum* Privet; reseeds aggressively.
- Liriodendron* Tulip tree; needs huge amount of water, dies in drought; scale and aphids.
- Malus* (some) Crabapple; messy, many varieties get scab and fireblight; ‘Snowdrift’, ‘Hopa’, ‘Floribunda’ ok.



<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberry; weak wood, suckers, reseeds, poisonous fruit.
<i>Morus</i>	Mulberry; messy fruit, very dense shade; fruitless varieties ok.
<i>Pistache</i>	Chinese pistache; currently dying in Woodland of unknown cause, susceptible to verticillium wilt left in soil from tomato farming.
<i>Populus</i>	Poplar, cottonwood; brittle, sprout freely from aggressive roots; cankers, borers.
<i>Robinia hybrids</i>	Locust; aggressive roots, brittle, reseeds.
<i>Salix</i>	Willow; needs too much water, roots destroy drain pipes, brittle.
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Tallow; an official pest tree (reseeding); look for males only.
<i>Ulmus spp</i>	Siberian elm; brittle, suckers. Chinese elm (<i>U. parviflora</i>) is a registered pest tree. Only 'Frontier' is ok.
<i>Washingtonia</i>	Fan palm; millions of seedlings, fans harbor rats.

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