



Evergreen Sumac vs. Smooth Sumac

Which Texas Tough Sumac is Right for Your Landscape?

Feature	Evergreen Sumac	Smooth Sumac
Native to Texas?	Yes	Yes
Evergreen or Deciduous?	Evergreen to semi-evergreen	Deciduous (drops leaves in winter)
Mature Size	8–12 ft. tall & wide	10–15 ft. tall & wide
Growth Habit	Dense, rounded shrub/small tree	Open, spreading, colony-forming shrub
Fall Color	Minimal; stays green most of the year	Outstanding red-orange fall color
Flowers	Creamy-white flower clusters in spring	Greenish-yellow flower clusters in spring/summer
Berries for Wildlife	Red berries loved by birds	Deep red berries persist into winter
Sun Needs	Full sun to part shade	Full sun
Water Needs	Very drought tolerant once established	Drought tolerant once established
Soil Tolerance	Excellent in rocky, alkaline soils	Adaptable, tolerates poor soils
Deer Resistance	Moderately deer resistant	Moderately deer resistant
Best Landscape Use	Privacy hedge, screening, evergreen structure	Wildlife gardens, erosion control, fall color
Maintenance	Easy to shape and maintain	Can spread by suckers; occasional thinning