



## Expanding Tree Diversity in Hawai'i's Landscapes: Narrow-Leaf Fig, *Ficus maclellandii*

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A compact, evergreen fig with long narrow leaves, *F. maclellandii* first found use as an interior foliage tree under the trade name 'Ali'i'. Broader-leaved forms under the trade names 'Amstel-veen', 'Amstel Queen', and 'Amstel King' are also available. Mature trees reach up to 40 ft in height with a rounded crown to 30 ft across. The upright branches eventually droop gracefully, and the trunk features brown bark with prominent lenticels.

### Recommended Use in Landscapes

- Small shade tree for residences
- Shade tree in public spaces, parks
- Large container plantings



Used as a shade tree in a shopping plaza



Frequent pruning helps to develop a dense crown.

- Indoor specimen
- Street tree
- Accent tree
- Good in mixed plantings

### Distribution

- Native to Java, Borneo, Malaysia

### Propagation Techniques

- Cuttings and aird layering.

### Cultural Requirements and Tolerances

- Requires regular watering but well-drained soil
- Mildly drought tolerant
- Not tolerant of strong winds, salt spray, saline soils
- Full sun to semi-shade

### Flower and Fruit Characteristics

- Small (about  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch) figs borne singly or in pairs.
- Mature fruits are orange.
- Fruits contain no viable seeds.

### Leaf Characteristics

- Glossy and dark green, linear-lanceolate, to 8 inches long by up to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide tapering to an acuminate tip
- Alternate leaves
- Evergreen
- Holds leaves better than the Benjamin fig (*Ficus benjamina*)

### Advantages for Use in Landscapes

- Amenable to pruning when needed
- Has weeping willow effect
- Holds leaves well; i.e., clean habit
- Can be shaped if desired
- Few aerial roots unless in wet areas
- Few surface roots
- WRA score of -1, as it sets no seed

### Disadvantages for Use in Landscapes

- Sticky white sap may irritate skin or eyes.
- Susceptible to spider mites, scale, and mealybugs.
- A leaf-roller has been observed as a minor pest.
- Not for use in first-exposure seacoast
- Susceptibility to lobate lac scale has not yet been determined.



Evergreen foliage is long lasting.



The dense crown produces shade.