



## Do Not Cultivate



Present

# UMBRELLA TREE *Schefflera actinophylla*



Forest and Kim Starr



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**Description:** Sprawling tree up to 45' tall branching at the base

**Don't confuse with these look alike:**



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Dwarf Schefflera



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Trumpet Tree

**Leaves:** Light green, palm shaped, with 5-18 leaflets up to 1' long, growing on a stem up to 2' long

**Flowers:** Small yellow to red flowers, clustered on tentacle like stems held above foliage

**Fruit:** clusters of bright red to brown berries, occasionally used for lei



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# UMBRELLA TREE

*Schefflera actinophylla*

Family: Araliaceae

Origin: Australia, New Guinea

HWRA Score: 13

Big Island Habitat: Naturalized in wet lowland humid forests.

Description: A fast growing, tall tree with thin, woody trunks and compound leaves made up of many leaflets arranged in a circle on long stems.

Impacts: Umbrella tree has naturalized in wet lowland areas of the Big Island where it may form dense, impenetrable thickets. It can produce deep shade, inhibiting understory plants and may sprout and begin to grow epiphytically on other trees, eventually strangling them.

Dispersal Mechanism: The copious seeds are spread widely by birds.

Cultivation: Umbrella tree has been widely cultivated and has naturalized in many locations across the entire island. This tree is considered one of the most invasive horticultural plants in Hawai'i.

## Don't confuse with:

- **Dwarf Schefflera** (*Schefflera arboricola*) This compact, bush to small tree has smaller leaflets 4-8 inches long, and grows much more slowly than umbrella tree. It produces fewer seeds, and flowers much less often, but is also invasive.
- **Trumpet Tree** (*Cecropia obtusifolia*) This tall tree has dull, rough textured leaves which are dark green on top but lighter gray-green on bottom.