

# Dodonaea viscosa

## CARE GUIDE

'A'ali'i (*Dodonaea viscosa*) is a wind and drought tolerant plant found from the dry coastal lowlands to the wet forests of the Hawaiian Islands. The fruit capsules and leaves are popular in lei making and are also used to make red dye for kapa cloth.

Sun	Water	Habitat
full or partial sun	well drained soil with minimal watering once established (1-2 times a week)	coastal dunes, lava fields, and mesic forests of the Hawaiian Islands



*Dodonaea viscosa* - 'A'ali'i

In addition to being drought tolerant, 'A'ali'i can also be used for erosion control. Its deep tap roots act as stabilizers and the plant requires very little care once established. The species typically displays as a dense shrub (4-8 ft.) but can be pruned into a small tree, topiary or hedge and is very forgiving of pruning errors.

Colorful seed capsules used for lei making are from the female flowering plants (dioecious) and vary in color from cream all the way to dark red.

01.

Plants should be spaced 6 - 8 ft. apart to best showcase the species. Can be planted in close proximity to other plants.

02.

'A'ali'i has very few pests but can be affected by mealybugs and black twig borers. Watch for die out around the ends of branches and treat with insecticide (imidacloprid) as needed.

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