Plant Name	Scientific	Common	Family	Date Reviewed 03/24/20	
Rhus trilobata 'Autumn Amber'		Autumn Amber sumac	<u>Anacardiaceae</u>		
Propagation Method		Native to			
Hardwood Cuttings		A selection made in 1971 from plants grown at the Los Lunas Plant Materials Center from seed collected near Littlefield, Texas in 1957. Selected for low growth and purported "brilliant fall colors".			
Softwood		Central and Western US	Central and Western US		
Treatments (Suggested procedures)					

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Hardwood Cuttings: Cuttings are cut to approximately 6 inch in length. Hardwood cuttings disinfected with Greenshield or Zerotol at labeled rate because fuzzy stems hold soil and probable fungal spores. use a spray on potassium salts of IBA (KIBA) at 1000 ppm. After the cuttings were stuck, use a backpack sprayer filled with KIBA to completely wet the leaves and stem of the cuttings to the point the KIBA starts to drip. Hormone treatments have not yielded consistently improved rooting.

**Softwood Cuttings**: Not the easiest plant to root 50% being considered a good take. One grower recommends taking soft tip cuttings of actively growing shoots during summer. Make the cutting 5 to 6" long, make the bottom cut 1/4" below a node, strip off the bottom leaf, and quick dip the bottom cut into 1:10 Woods rooting hormone for 5 seconds. Do not cut the tip, leave the apical meristem intact to encourage growth after rooting. Without letting the cutting dry out, place under intermittant mist. A good starting point is 5 seconds mist followed by 6 minutes interval. Mist only during daylight hours.

## **Collection Timing and Strategies**

Collect hardwood cuttings from containerized nursery stock plants (well fertilized and watered) in February or March before flowering. Keep moist. Cut off terminal flower buds.

## **Cultural Information**

### Greenhouse conditions

Cuttings stuck in mix of 2 parts Sunshine #1 and 1 part perlite with moderate rate of controlled release fertilizer. (We use Osmocote Plus 5-6 month release.) Individual cuttings are stuck into individual 10 cubic inch Super Cells. Watered every other day in a greenhouse with high humidity from evaporative pad cooling. It takes at least 4 to 5 months from sticking to achieve a somewhat cohesive root system.

#### Garden conditions

Super Cell flats are move outside after all danger of frost (after mid May). Watered daily. Transplanted into one gallon treepots in July to September. Treepot plants might be ready with one additional growing season (fall of second year).

# **Other Expert Advice**