

Ginmokusei

Flowers with a Distinctive Scent

This evergreen shrub is native to Asia, and is known variously as a tea olive, sweet olive, or fragrant olive (*Osmanthus fragrans*). This specimen is thought to have been growing here, in the garden of the priest of the local Shinto shrine, for hundreds of years. It has a mossy trunk and convoluted branches, and blooms in late September and early October with beautiful white flowers and a delicate fragrance.