Thornless Common Honeylocust  
(*Gleditsia triacanthos* var. *inermis*)

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**Summary:**
- **Foliage:** Deciduous broadleaf  
- **Height:** 70 feet  
- **Spread:** 50 feet  
- **Shape:** Oval, spreading

Thornless honeylocust is a large tree that tolerates both wet and dry soils. One should select a cultivar for fruitlessness and pest resistance.

**Plant Needs:**
- **Zone:** 4 to 9  
- **Light:** Partial shade to full sun  
- **Moisture:** Wet, moist, to dry  
- **Soil Type:** Sandy, loam, or clay  
- **pH Range:** 4.5 to 7.3

**Functions:**
- Suggested uses for this plant include shade, street tree, massing, and specimen plant.

**Planting Notes:**
- Plant improved cultivars with good form, and being thornless, podless, and pest resistant.  
- Easy to transplant because it withstands a wide range of conditions.  
- Prefers full sun.  
- Extremely salt tolerant.

**Care:**
- Spray twice yearly to control webworms.

**Problems:**
- Susceptible to Thyronectria canker, mimosa webworms, leaf hoppers, spider mites, and leaf galls. Webworms are the worst problem, occasionally defoliating trees by August.

**Alternatives:**
- Consult garden centers, historic or public gardens and arboreta regarding cultivars and related species that grow well in your area.  
- **Cultivars of *Gleditsia triacanthos* var. *inermis*:**  
  - `Sunburst` has yellow new foliage which turns bright-green. It is seedless and podless, however, it is susceptible to Thyronectria canker.  
  - `Shademaster` has ascending branches, dark green leaves and is podless.  
  - `Majestic` has nice dark-green foliage and is podless.  
- There are many cultivars available with good form, fall color, and pest resistant characteristics.

**Comments:**
- Native honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) trees are best known for their hazardous thorns and long, flat seed pods. Pest resistant, thornless, good form, and podless cultivars are highly recommended.  
- Lacy foliage gives a loose, open shade ideal for patios and shade loving plants.  
- In autumn, the small leaflets filter into the grass as they fall, requiring little raking.

*This material was developed by Carol Ness as part of the Interactive Design and Development Project funded by the Kellogg Foundation.*