

Black Cherry



Tree Type

This tree is deciduous and will lose its foliage for the winter.

Planting

Don't plant near a sidewalk or road as the fruits are quite messy. Refer to back for best planting practices for your bareroot.

Watering

Once established, they need very little watering and are drought tolerant. Regularly watering once fruit starts to develop, ensures a bountiful crop. Refer to watering guidelines on back for specific watering directions.

Pruning

Some pruning is beneficial to the tree's appearance. Remove broken, dead or diseased branches.

Preferences

This tree prefers full sun to partial shade meaning it needs at least 4 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight per day. Black Cherry grows in a variety of soils but prefer acidic, moist, well-drained soils but can tolerate some alkalinity.

Attributes

Black Cherry grows to heights of 50 to 60 ft with a spread of 20 to 30 ft at maturity. It can grow more than two feet a year. This tree has showy white flowers and are followed by dark, pea-sized fruits in late summer. Black Cherry is considered aggressive but is highly susceptible to ice damage. In the fall, the leaves turn yellow to orange, then to red late in the season. Black Cherry's wood is highly valued for furniture, paneling, instruments, toys and takes polish well. The fruit is toxic when bitter and the foliage is toxic to both humans and livestock.

Wildlife Value

Red foxes, eastern chipmunks, eastern cottontails, white-footed mice, gray squirrels and red squirrels forage on fallen cherries. White-tailed deer are not sensitive to the toxins and browse on twigs and foliage in the fall and winter. The nectar and pollen of the flowers attract honeybees and bumblebees. The fruit is also an important food source for up to 70 species of birds.