

Black cherry - Plant



wild black cherry, rum cherry, or mountain black cherry

Rating: Not Rated Yet

Price

Sales price R 123,456

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Description The wild black cherry tree (*Prunus serotina*) is an indigenous North American tree which will grow to between 60-90 feet tall with lightly serrated, shiny, dark green leaves. Growing black cherries have low branches which tend to droop and brush the ground.

Common name: wild black cherry, rum cherry, or mountain black cherry

Color: dark red to black in color

Bloom time: April to May

Height: 50.00 to 80.00 feet

Difficulty level: difficult

Planting & Care

Intrigued? So, I guess you'd like to know how to grow a black cherry tree. First off, growing black cherries are hardy to USDA zones 2-8. Otherwise, the black cherry tree's requirements are relatively simple.

The tree prefers some sun exposure but is most often found in the wild as an understory tree, living beneath the canopy of forest and hence often in shadow. Black cherry trees will tolerate a variety of soil media.

Before transplanting black cherry trees, however, keep in mind that the tree is quite messy. The dropping fruit tends to stain concrete and the remaining seeds can be treacherous for anyone walking beneath the tree.

Sunlight: Full sun to part shade

Soil: well-drained soils

Water: Medium

Temperature: 1° to 6° C (34° to 43° F)

Fertilizer: apply any organic fertilizer

Care:

- There is no difference in care between sour and sweet cherries.
- Apply mulch to retain moisture.

- Drape netting over trees to protect the fruit from birds.
- Water routinely in dry areas.
- Thinning the fruit is not necessary for cherry trees.
- Prune trees every year in late winter to encourage the growth of new fruiting wood.
- Don't prune in the fall.
- Fertilize each spring until trees start to bear, then fertilize only after harvest each season.
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Special Feature:

The tree grows best in a slightly acid to neutral pH soil. Avoid wet sites.

Use

Medicinal use:

- it is used for colds, whooping cough, bronchitis and other lung problems; diarrhea; gout; digestive disorders; pain; and cancer.
- It is also used in cough syrups because of its sedative, expectorant, drying, and cough-suppressing effects.

Culinary use:

- Fruit of *Prunus avium* (the common cherry readily available in stores) as well as wild cherry is eaten plain, added to pies, jams, juice, liqueurs and wine.
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Ornamental use:

- Spring blossoms, Fall color, Edible fruit, Showy flowers, Attractive bark

Note:

for medicinal use, please consult appropriate doctor / physician before use.

Reference:

http://www.anniesremedy.com/herb_detail256.php <http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/edible/fruits/cherry/how-to-grow-black-cherries.htm>
<http://www.almanac.com/plant/cherries>