

Prunus

Prunus (*Rosaceae*)

The *Prunus* genus includes a lot of varieties, most of them originary of the boreal hemisphere. Except some varieties, they are all deciduous trees or shrubs which flower in spring, with ornamental flowers. They are also used as fruit tree.



"Accolade" **(*P. sargentii* "Accolade")**

Origin: England. Small deciduous tree or large shrub with a crown which is initially vase-shaped, sparse and upright, later broadening out until becomes round with the external branches bending downwards slightly. Elliptical leaves, 8-12cm long, with dentate margins, medium green, turning a beautiful shade of yellow and orange in autumn. Early flowering in March-April, flowers are 4cm wide, double and grouped in clusters, very bright pink producing a very spectacular

effect. No particular requirements as regards soil, and needs to be lightly pruned after the flowering (even though it does withstand severe pruning). It can be planted as a free standing specimen, with other plants to form hedges or in flower borders. When the branches are covered in buds they can be cut and arranged in vases where the buds will open and stay in flower for quite a while.

Prunus



avium

Origin: Europe, the Middle East, Caucasus. Deciduous tree with broad, oval or round crown. Straight trunk with reddish-brown, shiny bark marked with transverse rings. Green leaves, 6-15cm long, oval-elongate, which turn yellow or amber in autumn. Numerous white flowers, simple, 2.5cm wide, grouped in clusters. The flowers begin to open just before the leaves. Fruit: small, red, edible cherries, sweet-and-sour. It is used a lot as a root-stock for more productive congeners. In Italy it can be found in beech woods and in spring when it is in flower it stands out creating attractive splashes of white. Grows well in clay soil as long as it is well drained.

avium "Plena"

Origin: France. Deciduous tree with broad, round, dense crown and shiny reddish-brown bark. Ovoidal leaves, dark green, 6-15cm long. White, double flowers, 2-3cm wide, in clusters which open one or two weeks after *Prunus avium*. Bears no fruit and has the same growing requirements as *Prunus avium*.



Prunus



x blireana

Origin: cross between *Prunus cerasifera* "Pissardii" and *Prunus mume* "Alphandii". Very lovely deciduous large shrub or small tree, with leaves of a metallic rusty purple colour and double, lightly perfumed flowers, abundant, pinkish-red, that appear in March-April before the leaves. Growing requirements and use: as for *Prunus cerasifera* "Pissardii".

caroliniana

Origin: Western America. Evergreen large shrub or small tree with very dense crown. Narrow, pointed, shiny green leaves. Very showy white flowers, in axillary clusters. Likes fertile, permeable soil. Can be used on its own, in groups, for hedges.





**cerasifera "Pissardii"
(*P. cerasifera* "Atropurpurea")**

Origin: the United States. Large shrub or small deciduous tree with round, compact crown. The bark of the young branches is purplish-blue. Oval leaves, 5-7cm long, ruby when they appear, later they become reddish-purple and do not fade in summer. Simple flowers, bright pink, 2.5cm wide on the previous year's branches. The flowers are numerous and begin to open on the bare branches and with the new leaves they literally cover the entire crown which becomes a breathtaking pink cloud. Fruit: small, red, edible plums in August-September, very decorative but sporadic. Grows well in all normal garden soil, even dry and stony,

but it gives best results in cool, alluvial and permeable soil. Tolerates pollution and is used a lot as a street tree where the streets are not too wide. Must be pruned after flowering to keep the growth under control.

**cerasifera "Hollywood"
(*P. trailblazer*)**

Large shrub or small tree with deciduous leaves, thorny, with rounded crown. Purple red leaves in spring, becoming bronze-coloured in summer. Long branches entirely covered by mass of white flowers, before leaves, in March-April. Large red fruits follow, very decorative and much loved by birds. Use and growing requirements : as for *P. cerasifera* "Pissardii".



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fruticosa "Globosa"

Origin: South eastern Europe to Siberia. Deciduous shrub with surprisingly short branches; when grafted at the top it will form a spherical crown which remains regular without pruning. Elliptic leaves, 5-6cm long, 2-3cm wide, dark green. White flowers, single, in April. Fruit: not abundant, similar to red cherries, edible. Requires fairly fertile soil, moist and also calcareous.

x hillieri "Spire"

Small, deciduous tree with a funnel shaped crown. Ovoidal, pointed, doubly dentate, deep green leaves with magnificent autumnal colouring of yellow, orange and red. Abundant, porcelain pink, simple flowers which appear before the leaves. Grows in all normal garden soil. Particularly suitable for small gardens and containers.





laurocerasus "Caucasica",
Caucasica English laurel

Origin: Caucasus. Evergreen shrub, upright, well branched and dense. Oval-elongate leaves, 15-18cm long, 3.5-6cm wide, leathery, bright green on the upper side, paler and dull underneath, slightly toothed margins. White flowers grouped in upright clusters 8-12cm, in April-May. Fruit: round drupes 1cm in diameter, red and shiny black when ripe. Adapts well to different types of soil but prefers slightly dry to

moist or fertile from slightly acid to alkaline. Tolerates all positions but in complete shade it requires plenty of light. Withstands severe and repeated pruning and all over Europe it is one of the most popular plants used for hedges, both clipped and left to grow freely. Withstands the cold and if it suffers damage from an unexpected hard frost it will vigorously form re-growth at the base. Very decorative shaped into a half standard and also as a standard, which we have recently begun to produce with excellent results.

laurocerasus "Rotundifolia",
Rotundifolia English laurel

Origin: France. Evergreen shrub, upright and dense. With age it spreads out and becomes round. Elliptic to oval leaves, 9-12cm long, 5-7cm wide, the tip is roundish (hence the name), leathery, paler green than *P. laurocerasus* "Caucasica" but just as glossy and toothed at margins. Flowers, fruit and growing requirements: the same as *P. laurocerasus* "Caucasica".



Prunus



laurocerasus "Etna"® ("Anbri")

Evergreen shrub, well branched, upright, broad and almost round when adult. Glossy, dark green, leathery leaves up to 13cm long and 6.5cm wide, undulate and slightly toothed margins. The young leaves are pale green tinged with russet when the shoots open. White flowers in racemes 20cm long, followed by fruit which is black when ripe. According to the breeder, it is hardier than *Causasica* and *Rotundifolia*. Suitable for screens, as a freestanding specimen or planted in groups. Tolerates pollution in industrial areas.

laurocerasus "Novita"

New variety selected in Holland, considered an improved *Prunus l. "Causasica"*, because of its longer, more coriaceous leaves, of a brighter green. Held also to be more resistant to disease. Growing requirements and use: like *Prunus l. "Causasica"*.



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laurocerasus "Otto Luyken"

Origin: Germany. Evergreen shrub with broad and compact habit. Narrow elliptic leaves 8-10cm long, 2-3cm wide, glossy dark green. White flowers in spikes in April-May. Growing requirements: the same as *P. laurocerasus* "Caucasica".

lusitanica, Lauro del Portogallo

Origin: Spain, Portugal. Evergreen shrub with open, spreading habit and young branches that are red. If it is planted as a freestanding specimen it becomes an impressive tree with round crown and branches that hang down to the ground. Very decorative as a half standard and standard trees. Leaves borne on red stalks, ovate and pointed, 6-14cm long, 4-6cm wide, very dark, glossy green with toothed margins. In May flowers in upright racemes at the end of the previous year's growth, 15-25cm long, white with a fragrance similar to hawthorn. Dark purple fruit in 10cm long bunches follows the flowers. Grows well in all types of normal garden soil and tolerates calcareous soil. Withstands light pruning. Use: as a freestanding specimen, in groups, for hedges and screens.



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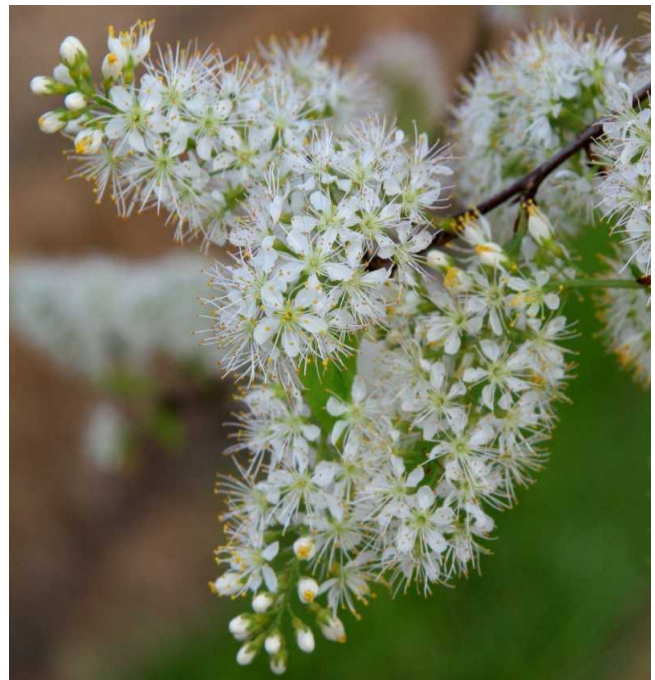


lusitanica "Angustifolia"

This grows slower than *P. lusitanica*, it is naturally pyramidal and dense without needing to be pruned. The leaves are smaller, narrower and have toothed margins. Flowers and fruit: identical to *P. lusitanica*. Growing requirements and use: the same as *P. lusitanica*.

maackii "Amber Beauty"

Deciduous small tree or large shrub, with upward growing branches and amber yellow trunk. White flowers, in clusters, in April, followed by shiny black fruits.



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mume "Pendula",
Japanese flowering apricot

Pretty small weeping tree, with branches normally from ground level. Oval, dentate deciduous leaves, 4-8 cm long, mid-green. Double or semi-double pale pink flowers in February-March. Ideal for small gardens, centre or large rock gardens, troughs

"Okame"

Well-branched, widening deciduous tree or shrub. In March-April, spectacular flowering in hanging bunches of bright pink little flowers with yellow stamens.



Prunus



padus, Pado

Origin: Europe, Asia. Large shrub or small tree with ovoidal, dense crown and dark grey bark. Leathery, finely dentate, pale green leaves which are bluish underneath; beautiful autumn colouring of yellow or red. Small, white flowers which smell of almonds. The flowers hang in long racemes from April to May and are followed by black fruit appetizing to birds. Prefers siliceous soil but also grows in peaty soil.

**serrulata "Amanogawa"
(*P. serrulata* "Erecta")**

Flowering cherry with columnar habit and upright branches close to the trunk, sometimes with more than one trunk starting from the base. Deciduous, elliptic leaves, 8-12cm long, pale green and yellow tinged with purple in autumn. Semi-double flowers, fragrant, pale pink in April-May, so numerous that they completely cover the plant. No particular requirements as regards soil providing it is well drained and not stagnant.



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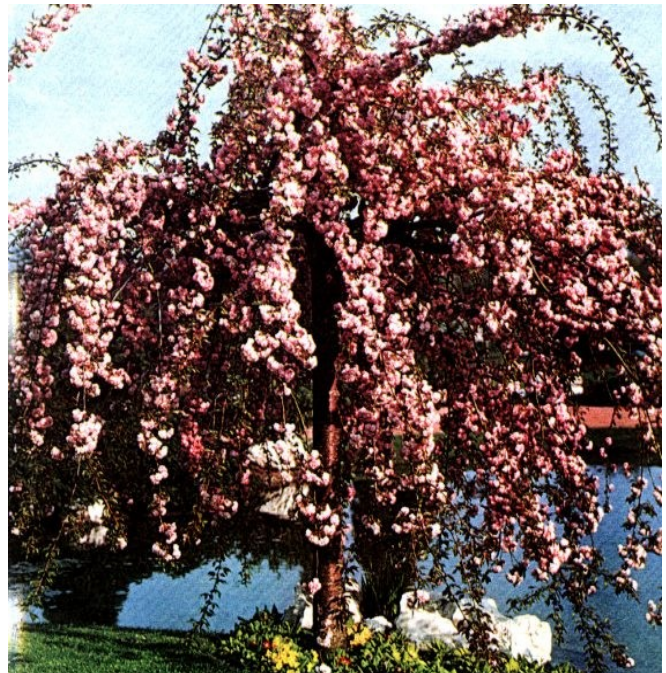


serrulata "Kanzan"
(P. serrulata "New Red"),
Japanese flowering cherry

Origin: China. The most popular and most spectacular Flowering Cherry. Large shrub or small tree with characteristic crown which is initially vase-shaped and later spreads out. Deciduous leaves, bronze when they appear, then bright green and yellow-orange in autumn. Flowers in April, red when in bud, bright pink when open, double, in groups of 2-5. Soil: the same as previous plant. Use: a free standing specimen, in groups, as a street plant.

serrulata
"Kiku-shidare-zakura"

Small deciduous tree with weeping branches which form large arches and are completely covered in flowers. Elliptic leaves, 8-10cm long, bronze when they appear, later bright green. The spectacular flowering occurs in April on bare branches and with the first leaves. The flowers are double, 3cm wide, grouped in 4-6, pure pink. Soil: the same as P. serrulata "Amanowawa". Use: a free standing specimen on lawns.



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serrulata "Pink Perfection"

Resembles *P. s.* "Kanzan", but its branches are less rigid and form a crown like a round fan, slightly drooping. Foliage and flowers the same as "Kanzan". Bears no fruit. Growing requirements and use: like "Kanzan".

serrulata "Royal Burgundy", Ciliegio giapponese a foglie rosse

Large, deciduous shrub or small tree with roundish crown. It is a mutation of *P. serrulata* "Kanzan", from which it basically differs in the purplish-red foliage in spring-summer, reddish-orange in autumn. The flowers have the same structure as "Kanzan" but are deeper pink. Requires fertile, fresh, permeable soil. Suitable for gardens, parks and streets.



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**serrulata "Shiro-fugen"
(P. serrulata "Alborosea")**

Small tree or shrub whose crown is at first an open vase, opening out to become quite umbrella-shaped, truly attractive. Leaves have beautiful autumn colours before falling. Flowers pinkish-white in bud, pure white and double when open. During the period when both buds and flowers are on the tree, it is the picture of exquisite elegance. Growing requirements and use: like P. "Kanzan".

serrulata "Sunset Boulevard"

Origin: Belgium. Deciduous tree or large shrub, with branches bending slightly outwards. Green leaves, bronze in spring. White cup-shaped flowers with pink borders. Bears no fruit. Growing requirements and use: like Prunus serrulata "Kanzan".



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serrulata "Tai Haku"

Deciduous small tree or large shrub, with strong, erect main branches growing upwards. Very big leaves, at first reddish-bronze, then green, yellow or orange, in autumn. Large flowers, over 5 cm wide, pink in bud, pure white when open. Growing requirements and use: like P. "Kanzan".

subhirtella "Autumnalis"

Large deciduous shrub or small tree with wide and vase-shaped crown. Pointed, oval, leaves, 6-8cm, toothed, green turning to a beautiful orangey-yellow in autumn. Pink buds which open into semi-double flowers, 2-3cm, very pale pink, almost white. The first flowers appear in November-December (if the climate is not too hard). Some flowers continue to appear throughout the winter until March when the main flowering occurs. Growing requirements: the same as P. serrulata "Amanogawa".



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subhirtella "Autumnalis Rosea"

Differs from the above only for its pinkish-white flowers, with pink heart and reddish calyx.

subhirtella "Pendula"

Small deciduous tree top grafted at about 2m. From the point of the grafting the long main branches initially spread out and then hang down at the ends. The secondary branches weep until they almost touch the ground. Deciduous leaves, oval, toothed, dark green turning a beautiful yellow or red in autumn. Flowers in March-April, before the leaves, bright pink when in bud, paler pink when open, which cover the whole length of the branch. The habit is so elegant that it could be used even if it did not produce such beautiful flowers. Growing requirements: the same as *P. serrulata* "Amanogawa". Use: as a free standing specimen or in groups on lawns.



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subhirtella "Pendula Rosea"

The same habit, leaves and growing requirements as the previous plant. Flowers in the same period with the same abundance but the simple flowers are bright pink whilst the buds are crimson.

"Umineko" (*P. incisa* x *speciosa*)

Small tree or large shrub, erect with columnar crown, broader than *P. serrulata* "Amanogawa". Ovoidal, 5-6 cm leaves are reddish in spring, then green, orange, red, scarlet and violet in autumn. Pure white, simple flowers, 2-3 cm wide, with striking very decorative yellow stamens. Same growing requirements as *P. serrulata* "Kanzan".



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virginiana "Shubert"

Origin: USA (North Dakota). Medium sized tree with oval, spreading crown. Medium-large leaves, pale green when they appear; within 3-4 weeks the leaves turn red and then shiny, blackish red, very deep even in summer. Flowers in mid-spring, pinkish-white with red centre in long pendulous racemes, followed by dark red fruit. Grows well in all types of soil, even dry soil. Use: as a free standing specimen, in groups, as a street plant.

x yedonensis (*P. speciosa* x *subhirtella*), Tokio Cherry

Delightful little deciduous tree, whose arched branches bear shiny green oval leaves, 6-10 cm, sweet-smelling when rubbed between fingers. Flowers like little stars, creamy-white or yellow-green, in short clusters, perfumed especially in the evening. Winged fruits like those of elm which remain on tree until late autumn, very decorative. Prefers fertile soils, but will grow in poor dry terrain too. Withstands pollution.

