

F2187 (July 2024)

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North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Prunus americana*

Family: Rosaceae (Rose)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Deciduous

Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Medium Growth

Mature Height: >7'

Longevity: Short

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: White

Fruit: Yellow to red plums

Fall Color: Red to yellow

American Plum

Description

The wild plum is a native tall shrub to small tree which is thorny, winter-hardy, and thicket-forming. In landscape settings, the species is typically grown for ornamental qualities, not for its fruit. Fruit can be eaten but is typically used to make preserves and jellies.

Preferences

Light: Full sun to partial shade.

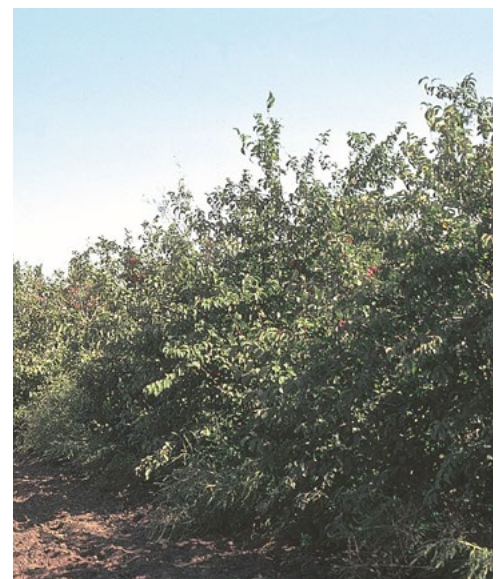
Water: Fair to good drought tolerance.

Soil: Adaptable to a wide variety of soils.

Comments

Used for naturalizing and border plantings. American plum suckers profusely and may not be acceptable in home landscapes.

Some cultivars – hybrids or European plum varieties – are available and were selected for superior fruit quality. See NDSU Extension publication H1558 – Starting a Community Orchard in North Dakota for recommended varieties.



Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook, <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=e830>

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