F2194 (July 2024)
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General

Scientific Name: Prunus besseyi

Family: Rosaceae (Rose)
Hardiness: Zone 3
Leaves: Deciduous
Plant Type: Shrub

Growth

Rate: Medium Mature Height: 4-7' Longevity: Medium Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: White

Fruit: Purple to black berries

Fall Color: Yellow

Western Sandcherry

Description

A small, winter-hardy, relatively short-lived shrub native to the northern Great Plains. Edible fruits which are dark purple to black. Purpleleaf sandcherry, a hybrid, is a popular landscape shrub.

Preferences

Light: Full sun only.

Water: Fair drought tolerance. **Soil:** Prefers loamy soils.

Comments

Sandcherry is a suckering, spreading shrub that has a beautiful display of white flowers in spring. Fruits are larger than chokecherries and less astringent.

There are several cultivated varieties, including Hansen bush cherry and purpleleaf sandcherry (*Prunus x cistena*), a small tree.







Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook, http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PRPUB



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