JOB'S NURSERY, LLC
GROWING SINCE 1940

Cherry, Flowering Okame

Prunus 'Okame'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Ornamental Cherry

Description:

A beautiful spring flowering accent tree, featuring rich, bright pink flowers before the leaves, attractive reddish-brown bark and an arching, vase shaped habit of growth; needs full sun and well-drained soil; has a high tolerance to insects and disease

Ornamental Features

Cherry, Flowering Okame is smothered in stunning clusters of pink flowers along the branches in early spring, which emerge from distinctive rose flower buds before the leaves. It has forest green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn outstanding shades of orange and red in the fall. The fruits are showy black drupes displayed in early summer. The smooth dark red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Cherry, Flowering Okame is a deciduous tree with an indistinguished habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Cherry, Flowering Okame flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Cherry, Flowering Okame in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Cherry, Flowering Okame is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Cherry, Flowering Okame flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Cherry, Flowering Okame will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a high canopy of foliage that sits well above the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (2): Abundant flowers in early spring before the tree leaves out and if the tree develops fruit will be pea sized mostly pit turning from red to black in early summer. The fruit is unpalatable for humans but birds and wildlife like them. The leaves, flowers and fruit can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or bagged.