Cherry, Autumn Flowering

Prunus subhirtella 'Autumnalis'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 22 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Spring Cherry, Rosebud Cherry

Description:

A truly beautiful accent tree, with clouds of showy double light pink flowers in spring before the leaves, then blooms again in early fall. Colorful bark, good fall color and an artistic upright habit; needs full sun and well-drained soil



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

Ornamental Features

Cherry, Autumn Flowering is clothed in stunning clusters of fragrant semi-double shell pink flowers along the branches from early spring to early fall, which emerge from distinctive pink flower buds before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn yellow in fall. The fruits are showy black drupes displayed in early fall. The smooth dark red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Cherry, Autumn Flowering flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Cherry, Autumn Flowering is a deciduous tree with a more or less rounded form. 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, Autumn Flowering is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

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Planting & Growing

Cherry, Autumn Flowering will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 22 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 6 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath 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 60 years or more.

This tree does best in full sun to partial shade. 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 type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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.



Cherry, Autumn Flowering bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder