



Virginia Bird-cherry / Chokecherry

Prunus virginiana

Growing Information

- Sunlight: Full sun to partial shade.
- Soils: Dry-Moist. Prefers richer loams but is highly adaptable.
- Bloom Time: May-June. Fruits in late summer.
- Size: up to 30ft. form varies depending on light and soil conditions.

A large shrub or small deciduous tree with impressive adaptation to a wide variety of growing conditions. Can grow as a forest tree in moist shade or as a shrub on dry bluffs. Profuse cream-white flowers in late spring. Fruits are puckery sour but addictive and make a good July snack. Very attractive plant to birds and butterflies.

Garden Companions

Scrub Oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*); White Oak (*Quercus alba*); Pitch Pine (*Pinus rigida*); Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*); New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*)

Nature Benefits

- Provides nectar for native bees and butterflies.
- Important food source for birds and mammals.
- Larval host to a huge variety of moths and butterflies such as hairstreaks and sphinx moths.

Native Habitat

Moist woods, stream banks; prairie hillsides, fence rows, roadsides; sandy bluffs