

Fruiting Cherry Trees

Sweet Cherries

Sweet cherries are the ones most often found in markets. They have a thick, rich, and almost plumb-like texture. Sweet cherries grow in zones 5 to 7; they are self-sterile and best for an orchard or a large garden. You'll need at least two or three trees so that they can pollinate each other. However, a recent and exciting development in sweet cherries is the dwarf self-pollinating "Stella."

Sour (baking) Cherries

Sour cherries are not usually eaten raw, but are widely used for preserves and other cooking uses. Sour cherries are much smaller than sweet cherries and all varieties are self-fertile.

Varieties (Sweet):

Bing - When it comes to cherries, the Bing variety tops the list in terms of popularity and production. This hallmark of cherry trees grows in both a standard and dwarf form and can be a major producer once mature. In fact, a standard Bing cherry tree can provide as much as 50–100 lbs. of cherries per year! The cherries are large and heart-shaped with a firm, meaty, purplish-red flesh and a semi-free stone that is easily removed—making them ideal for fresh eating and preserves. The standard Bing cherry typically grows to a height of about 35' and a spread about 25' at maturity. The dwarf variety grows to a height of 12–15' with a spread of about 12–15'. This tree grows at a medium rate, with height increases of 13–24" per year. Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

Rainier - The Rainier Cherry Tree features striking blooms as well as the most popular cherries in America. This deciduous species will continue to astonish you season after season for many reasons, especially it's easy to care for versatility. Exquisitely scented, the long-lasting pale-pink to white blooms begin their arrival in mid-spring. The blossoms of the Rainier Cherry Tree provide delicate texture and create a wonderful backdrop for your outdoor living area. From mid to late June, Rainier generates an early harvest of delicious fruit. Large yellow fruit, kissed with just a splash of red, provides a scrumptious flavor that tantalizes the senses. Rainier is a heavy fruit producer, which makes it a preferred fruit tree in many home gardens. Rainier cherries are some of the sweetest available. These trees are not typically easy to find in your local garden center, but we've reserved a small lot of them knowing that our best customers would enjoy this divine fruiting tree. Adding another layer of color and texture to your landscape, the Rainier Cherry Tree provides beautiful leaves which turn wonderful shades of bronze, orange or yellow in autumn, depending on your climate zone. The Rainier Cherry Tree enjoys full sun, but can tolerate a small bit of shade. This hearty tree can also adapt to most any soil type as long as it is well-drained. Rainier Cherry Tree requires cross pollination for an abundant harvest, so be sure to purchase one of our other delectable cherry trees such as Bing or Black Tartarian as a good partner for Rainier. Grand in stature and hardy by design, the mature Rainier Cherry Tree reaches heights between 10-15 feet. With its stunning presence, low maintenance habit, and being a producer a mouth-watering fruit--this tree truly has much to offer.

Black Tartarian - A very popular species of sweet cherry, the black Tartarian makes a great choice for home orchards. It produces large, purplish-black fruit with a sweet, rich, full-bodied flavor that is great for fresh eating and preserves. This cultivar is also the best pollinator for other dark sweet cherries. The standard black Tartarian cherry typically grows to a height of about 30' and a spread about 30' at maturity. The dwarf variety grows to a height of 12–15' with a spread of about 12–15'. This tree grows at a

medium rate, with height increases of 13–24" per year. Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

Lapins - The Lapins Cherry is a cross between the Van and Stella Cherry. It is one of the largest and juiciest of the sweet cherries and provides multi seasonal interest. In April, your Lapins Cherry will be smothered in brilliant white blossoms followed by an abundance of sweet, large, dark red to purple fruit with light red flesh in July. Lapins Cherries are 1' across (each!) and resist splitting due to its' flexible skin. The flavor is divine, incredibly juicy and sweet. The Lapins fruit is firm and so big that one cherry is a mouthful. They are delicious right off the tree and wonderful for baking. Finally, in the fall your Lapins Cherry tree will delight yet again with beautiful autumn color. The green leaves will turn orange, red and yellow. The Lapins Cherry is hardy to -20, grows to only 20', and prefer full sun and a soil that holds moisture without becoming soggy.

Stella - The “Stella” cherry tree (*Prunus avium* “Stella”) is a self-fertile deciduous cherry tree that thrives in full sun and moist but well-drained soil. Excellent as a self-pollinator and a pollinator for other cherry trees, the “Stella” grows best in U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 5 through 8 as it does require 600 chill hours to produce well. The “Stella” cherry tree reaches about 20 feet in height and produces showy white flowers in the spring followed by sweet cherries that are ready for harvest in June.

Varieties (Sour):

Montmorency - Meet America’s most popular tart cherry for pies and preserves. The Montmorency cherry tree is a cold-hardy hybrid species that ripens early in the season. The medium-large bright red fruit has a firm yellow flesh; clear juice; and a rich, tart flavor that bakers and jam makers love. This tree is self-fertile, but planting two or more trees will ensure the best crop. The standard Montmorency cherry typically grows to a height of about 18' and a spread about 20' at maturity. The dwarf variety grows to a height of about 8' with a spread of about 10. This tree grows at a medium rate, with height increases of 13–24" per year. Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least six hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

Northstar - Famous for its unmatched beauty, but demanded for its delicious, juicy cherries! This dwarf cherry tree boasts attractive, richly colored bark and petite white flowers in spring, followed by an abundant production of juicy, dark red fruit. These plump, tart cherries are considered ideal for baking, but are delicious eaten fresh off of the tree as well. Fruit ripens in late June to late July. Reaching a mature height of 10-12 feet tall, this cherry tree is ideal for small spaces and works well into even the most established of landscapes or tiniest of yards. Extremely hardy and self-pollinating, the North Star could not be easier to grow! Both cold hardy and disease resistant... very low maintenance! Prefers full sun, but is widely adaptable to various soil and growing conditions. Disease-resistant to brown rot and leaf spot. When your tree matures, it will be approximately 8 - 10' tall x 8 - 10' wide. We recommend spacing these trees 8 - 10' apart to ensure room for growth.