Whitcomb Higan Cherry

Prunus subhirtella 'Whitcomb'



Whitcomb Higan Cherry flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 5

Other Names: Spring Cherry, Rosebud Cherry

Description:

A truly stunning accent tree, with clouds of showy purplish-pink flowers in spring before the leaves, colorful bark, good fall color and an artistic upright habit; needs full sun and well-drained soil, but quite adaptable for a cherry



Whitcomb Higan Cherry in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

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

Landscape Attributes

Whitcomb Higan Cherry 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.

Whitcomb Higan Cherry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Whitcomb Higan Cherry will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 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. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.