Black Chokeberry

Aronia melanocarpa var. elata

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2

Description:

Much preferred to the species, a superb landscaping shrub with glossy green leaves, showy white flowers in spring, black berries and purple fall color; suckers to form thickets, great for massing or grouping

Ornamental Features

Black Chokeberry features showy panicles of white flowers with brick red anthers at the ends of the branches in mid spring. It has forest green deciduous foliage. The glossy oval leaves turn an outstanding red in the fall. It produces black berries from late summer to late winter.

Landscape Attributes

Black Chokeberry is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading 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 shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering

Black Chokeberry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Black Chokeberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Black Chokeberry flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Black Chokeberry will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It is an amazingly adaptable plant, tolerating both dry conditions and even some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is native to parts of North America.



Black Chokeberry in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder