Midnight Schubert Chokecherry

Prunus virginiana 'Midnight Schubert'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Other Names: Common Chokecherry

Description:

A small color accent tree with deep dark purple foliage from mid-summer onwards and very attractive racemes of white flowers in spring followed by small, astringent black cherries; does not tend to sucker as much, can be susceptible to black knot

Ornamental Features

Midnight Schubert Chokecherry features showy chains of fragrant white flowers hanging below the branches in mid spring. It has attractive deep purple deciduous foliage which emerges green in spring. The oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding red in the fall. The fruits are showy black drupes carried in abundance in mid summer.

This plant is primarily grown as an ornamental, but it's also valued for its edible qualities. The small round tart fruit is most often used in the following ways:

- Baking
- Preserves
- Sauces

Landscape Attributes

Midnight Schubert Chokecherry 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.



Midnight Schubert Chokecherry
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Midnight Schubert Chokecherry flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This is a high maintenance tree that will require regular care and upkeep, 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Disease

Midnight Schubert Chokecherry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade



Midnight Schubert Chokecherry in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Midnight Schubert Chokecherry will grow to be about 25 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 is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more. This is a self-pollinating variety, so it doesn't require a second plant nearby to set fruit.

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 is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selection of a native North American species.