

# Ritchie

## FEED & SEED INC.



### Purpleleaf Sandcherry

*Prunus x cistena*

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Other Names: Cistena Cherry

#### Description:

A popular color accent shrub, upright-branched and wide spreading; small pink flowers in spring are elegant, but the reddish-purple foliage is a standout all season long; needs full sun and well-drained soil, excellent for adding lasting color to a garden

#### Ornamental Features

Purpleleaf Sandcherry has attractive burgundy deciduous foliage on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The pointy leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding red in the fall. It features delicate fragrant shell pink flowers along the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive pink flower buds before the leaves. The smooth bark and deep purple branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

#### Landscape Attributes

Purpleleaf Sandcherry 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.



*Purpleleaf Sandcherry foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Purpleleaf Sandcherry*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### Ottawa West

2079 Carp Road  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K2S 1B9  
Telephone: +1 613 836 6880

#### Ottawa East

1390 Windmill Lane  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
K1B 4V5  
Toll Free: +1 800 267 1922  
Telephone: +1 613 741 4430

#### Brockville

3043 County Rd. 29  
Brockville, Ontario, Canada  
K6V 5T4  
Telephone: +1 613 341 9343

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This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Purpleleaf Sandcherry is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

### **Planting & Growing**

Purpleleaf Sandcherry will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot 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 approximately 20 years.

This shrub 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.



*Purpleleaf Sandcherry flowers*  
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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