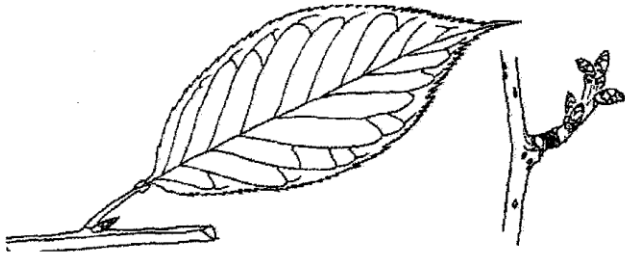


Japanese Flowering Cherry

Prunus serrulata



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This is the tree that most represents the beauty of spring and the characteristics of an all season tree for the yard or landscape. The flowers, which open in May, are single to semi-double and are produced in profusion. The newly emerging foliage is bronze to a fresh green and the fall foliage is bronze to muted red. The bark is smooth and a burgundy color with many horizontal lines of lenticels. This is not a long lived tree (15-50 years).

HABIT AND SIZE: 25-35' high and as wide in a vase-shaped to rounded outline.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: Excellent for its profuse flowering, fall foliage, shade, and bark.

LEAVES: Alternately arranged, simple, 2-5" long and 1.25-2.5" wide, ovate lanceolate in shape with an abruptly long acuminate tip and a round tapering base. The margins serrated with the serrations tapering to a stiff tip (aristate). The top and bottom are slightly rough but not hairy. the petiole is 0.5-1" long and usually has 2-4 glands. The leaf color is spring green to bronze on emerging leaves becoming deep green and turning to bronze or reddish in the fall.

FLOWERS: White or pink, double or semi-double 1-1.5" across in 3-5 flowered clusters which are on long or short peduncles and which bear large fringed bracts that appear with or just before the foliage. The individual flowers are on 1" pedicels, have 5 sepals, 5 to numerous petals, few to numerous stamens and an inferior ovary.

FRUIT: When present, a drupe the size of a pea.

BUD: Prominent, with overlapping scales, reddish in color on spur branches.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: The genus *Prunus* is susceptible to many diseases and insects.

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 5-6 and south. Japan, China and Korea

CULTIVARS: Numerous cultivars and most trees grafted onto *P. avium* stock 4-6' up on trunk. 'Amanogawa'- upright habit, single to semi-double pink flowers, 'Kwanzan'- the standard and hardiest of the double flowered, 'Mt Fuji'- pink buds open to white semi-double 2' flowers early in spring, 'Shirofugen'- pink buds to white flowers changing to pink and with many petals (30).