

## *Growing cherries....*

Cherries require a **light, well-drained soil and full SUN**. It's important that they are not planted in a wet area.

**Mulching is necessary** for recently planted cherry trees due to their shallow root system.

Cherries **do not require** much fertilization, so careful if fertilizing. Over fertilizing may cause a tree to grow too quickly, bear little fruit and become more susceptible to disease.

### *....a note about harvesting*

Cherries are ripe and ready for harvest when they pull from the branch easily.

Look for size and color before pulling.

The longer they stay on the tree the sweeter they'll become. But, don't wait too long otherwise the birds will steal them all.

\*\*\*tree netting helps keep the birds from eating all your cherries.



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# Cherries



A guide to selecting  
the best varieties for  
your garden



### **Balaton \***

A tart cherry with a dark burgundy skin and a robust sweet-tart taste. Cherries are large, plump, and firm making them easier to store and ship. Great for pies, jams, and other baked goods. Cherries begin to ripen in July and continue to ripen through till August. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **Bing**

Most widely grown sweet cherry, ripening mid-season. Large, dark red fruit is produced on this vigorous growing tree. Firm and meaty flesh is purple and freestone. Cold hardy to Zone 5. Pollinate with 'Black Tatarian' or 'Stella'.

### **Black Tatarian**

Vigorous, erect grower. Heavy bearer of large, bright purplish-black fruit. Tender juicy and very rich. One of the earliest cherries to ripen. Cold hardy to Zone 5. Can be pollinated by any other sweet cherry.

### **Black York**

A new release from the Cornell-Geneva program. Cherries are a dark black-red with a crisp, firm texture. These medium-large size cherries are sweet and juicy making them great for fresh eating. Excellent resistance to bacterial canker and cracking. Pollinate with another Sweet Cherry. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **Lapins \***

Sweet, dark cherry that is self-fertile (meaning you do not need another cherry tree to produce fruit). These cherries are crisp, sweet, and one of the best high quality dessert cherries available, perfect for pies, preserving or drying. Becoming ripe and ready for picking late July into August. Early blooming. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **Montmorency \***

An heirloom cherry, with 100 years of fruiting history. This is one of the most widely grown "sour cherries" in America. Produces a heavy crop of cherries ripening in July and August. Great for pies and other baked goods. Cold hardy to Zone 3.

### **Rainier**

A vigorous and productive tree, which bears heavily with fruit ready to be picked in mid August. A premium quality cherry that resists cracking while ripening, producing a medium to large size fruit with red skinned, blushed yellow. A fine, firm fruit that has a unique but distinct flavor. Pollinate with any other sweet cherry. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **Regina**

A very large, firm, dark sweet cherry with an excellent sweet flavor everyone loves. A reliable producer with great crack resistance. Long self-life makes them great for shipping and storing. Late season ripening. Hardy to Zone 5.

### **Stella \***

Large, heart-shaped, dark red fruit are produced on this self-pollinating sweet cherry. Sweet, rich flavor on a vigorous, productive tree make this an excellent choice. Moderate crack resistance. Use to pollinate any other sweet cherry. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **Strawberry Rainier**

Large, firm, bright red fruit with a juicy, whitish-pink flesh. These cherries are intensely sweet with a vibrant flavor. Vigorous and productive like its parent 'Rainier'. Pollinate with another Sweet Cherry. Cold hardy to Zone 5.

### **White Gold \***

Cold hardy, disease resistant variety that is self-fertile. A heavy producer of yellow blushed red cherries with white flesh. The sweet unique taste make these the ideal cherry for market and fresh eating. Cherries ripen early-mid season. Hardy to Zone 5.

\*indicates this variety is self-fertile, meaning that it will produce fruit without pollination of another tree.