

# *Amelanchier alnifolia*

## Pacific serviceberry, Alder-leaf shadbush



*Amelanchier alnifolia* (Pacific serviceberry) is native to North America and was used there by the Native Americans for medicinal purposes. The Pacific serviceberry is an upright, wide egg-shaped shrub with a finely branched crown. It is a valuable species for ecological zones and woodland planting stocks, as it blooms early for bees and it bears a lot of fruit for birds.

Right before or at the same time as the leaves sprout, the *Amelanchier alnifolia* blooms standing white racemes. The species blooms longer than other species of serviceberry, sometimes for as long as a month. The leaves bud bronze, are green in the summer with a striking grey-green underside and turns to yellow-orange in autumn. In July, the shrub bears juicy, blue-violet fruit that taste sweet and of all serviceberry shrubs, these are the most suited for consumption.

The shrub thrives in direct sunlight in acidic to neutral, moist soil. *Amelanchier alnifolia* expands with root shoots and throughout the years, it can take up a large area. In gardens, the Pacific serviceberry has to be kept in check by cutting away the root shoots; in ecological zones and woodland planting stocks, the species has room to grow.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** fruit trees, woodland planting stock, solitary shrubs

### USE

**Location:** park, central reservation, large garden, small garden, patio, cemetery, countryside, ecological zone | **Pavement:** none, open | **Planting concepts:** food forest, Eco planting, Landscape planting, urban planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure:** dense | **Height:** 3.5 - 4.5 m | **Width:** 3.5 - 4.5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 5A - 10B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** tolerant to wind, slightly tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral (5.1 - 7.5) | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, birds, humans | **Extreme environments:** tolerant to dryness

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, star-shaped, striking, standing, singular, scented | **Flower colour:** white | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, green, underside grey-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, obovate, hairy, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange | **Fruits:** edible, small, frosty, berry | **Fruit colour:** blue-violet | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** grey-brown | **Twigs:** bare, finely branched | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive,