

# *Amelanchier alnifolia* 'Smoky'

## Smoky saskatoon, Smoky serviceberry



*Amelanchier alnifolia* 'Smoky' (Smoky serviceberry) is a selection from Beaverlodge, Alberta, Canada from 1928. The species was introduced in 1952 and it bears the most fruit of all the serviceberry shrubs. It is a sturdy shrub that grows up to 4.5 metres in height with a finely branched, wide, egg-shaped habit.

The serviceberry blooms plentifully in April/May racemes of white flowers. In late June, the shrub bears delicious sweet, blue-violet fruit with a long harvest period. Its autumn colours are bright yellow to yellow-orange, depending on the soil and environment.

The species thrives in all kinds of soil, but for the best bloom and fruit production it needs nutrient-rich, permeable soil and preferably direct sunlight. *Amelanchier alnifolia* 'Smoky' produces root shoots, which can be cut away to keep the shrub in check.

### SEASONAL COLOURS



### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** fruit trees, 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, Prairie planting

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** wide egg-shaped | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 3.5 - 4.5 m | **Width:** 3.5 - 4.5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 5A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** slightly tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, peaty, heavy clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil, all soils | **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, standing, singular | **Flower colour:** white | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, green, underside grey-green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow | **Fruits:** edible, small, frosty, aromatic, raceme, berry | **Fruit colour:** blue-violet | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels | **Root system:** deep, shallow, extensive, highly branched,