

Prunus serrulata 'Amanogawa'

Fastigate cherry



Prunus serrulata 'Amanogawa' (Fastigate cherry, synonym: *Prunus serrulata* 'Erecta') was first mentioned in 1886, in a list of Japanese cherry trees near Tokyo, Japan. *Ama-no-gawa* means 'heavenly river', the Japanese name for the Milky Way: an apt reference to the tree's gorgeous, abundant blossoms. *Prunus serrulata* 'Amanogawa' can be clearly recognised by its columnar habit, which sags a bit as it ages. The tree grows up to about 4 - 6 metres high, and about 1.5 metres wide.

In late April, *Prunus serrulata* 'Amanogawa' abundantly blooms half-filled aromatic light pink flowers, which are very popular among bees. In contrast to other columnar cherry trees, this Japanese cherry tree's blossoms stand upright. When it is almost done blooming, the egg-shaped, oval leaves bud red-green, then turn green. The 'Amanogawa' cultivar has a beautiful yellow, orange and red gradient of autumn colours.

Prunus serrulata 'Amanogawa' is a clear favourite in (small) gardens. And with good cause: the tree does not take up much space, is strong and healthy, rarely bears fruit and thrives in many quite nutrient-rich, permeable types of soil. The 'Amanogawa' selection is easy to multiply on the rootstock of *Prunus avium* by grafting or shield budding. *Prunus serrulata* 'Amanogawa' is easy to rejuvenate by partially pruning the tree at the start of summer: that will maintain the columnar habit. Do rub some anti-fungal cream on any cuts resulting from pruning.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, multi-stemmed trees

USE

Location: street, park, central reservation, in containers, large garden, small garden, patio, cemetery | **Pavement:** none, open

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: columnar | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 4 - 6 m | **Width:** 1 - 1.5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6A - 9B

ASPECTS

Wind: slightly tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun, partial shade | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, nectar value 3, pollen value 3

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: raceme, striking, standing, half filled, strongly scented | **Flower colour:** pale pink | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, dark green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, ovoid, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, red | **Fruits:** rarely fruits, cherry | **Fruit colour:** black | **Bark colour:** pale brown | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** red-brown | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels, vertical branches, thickly branched | **Root system:** shallow, slightly branched