

Serviceberry – Amelanchier/Autumn Brilliance

Habitat

- Amelanchier x grandiflora is a hybrid cross between two species of serviceberries, A. arborea (downy serviceberry) and A. laevis (Allegheny serviceberry).

Habit and Form

- This deciduous, multi-stemmed shrub or small tree normally reaches about 20' tall and a similar width.
- To achieve a tree form, remove root suckers to maintain a more tree-like appearance.

Summer Foliage

- Leaves are simple in an alternate arrangement and have an ovate shape, and emerge with shades of bronze that turn blue-green in the summer.

Autumn Foliage

- Brilliant red-orange

Flowers

- In spring, this species displays fragrant, small pinkish-white 5-petaled flowers that usually bloom sometime in April.

Fruit

- The fruit is produced once the flowers are gone, turning blue-black when ripe in June, usually eaten very quickly by birds. Its berries are edible both raw and cooked, enjoyed by both humans and wildlife. They are often used for making jams, jellies, and can even be dried.

Bark

- The bark is smooth and silver-grey, with a subtle sheen.
- Mowing too closely to the trunk It can damage the tree, as can nearby over-enthusiastic gardening.

Culture

- This shrub is tolerant of most site and soil conditions but prefers moist and well-drained soil. It does not tolerate soil salt or poor drainage. It can grow in full sun and partial sun/shade, but is susceptible to heat and drought stress.

Ecosystem Services

- Birds love its berries.

Landscape Uses

- It is an excellent choice for a woodland garden, naturalized setting, or as a specimen plant in a garden.

Liabilities

- Occasional disease problems can include rust, leaf spot, fire blight, powdery mildew, and canker.
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