

Aronia melanocarpa

Black Chokeberry

Height: 3'-6'

Spread: 3'-6'

Sun: Full to Part Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic-Dry

Soil Types: Clay, Loam, Sand

Bloom Time: May

Bloom Description: Clusters of white blooms with subtle pink highlights.

Leaf: Glossy bright green leaves on the top 2/3s of the plant. In fall, the leaves range from crimson to wine-red to apricot.

Fruit: The showy fruit is edible and an antioxidant powerhouse. Tasty in jams, jellies, juices and baked goods. Harvest when fully ripe. High in pectin.

Uses: A versatile landscape plant that can be used as an edible hedge or massed in shrub borders. It can be used in rain gardens, small gardens or open woodland areas. Plant in masses with low-growing perennials or groundcovers in front of it.

Wildlife: Food and habitat for songbirds and upland gamebirds

Nectar: Bees

Larval Host: Coral Hairstreak, Praelara Underwing, and Bluish Spring Moth

Pollinators: Bees and other insects

Deer Resistant: No

Comments: This shrub has year-round interest and is underused in the landscape. Some pruning may be needed if a stem is over one inch in diameter or to prevent suckers. A list of recipes is available from the Midwest Aronia Growers Association.

