



***Aronia melanocarpa* - Black chokeberry**

COMMON NAME: Black chokeberry

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Aronia melanocarpa*, also *Pyrus melanocarpa* - *pyrus* is the classical name of the pear tree, black-fruited.

FLOWER COLOR: Light pink to white

BLOOMING PERIOD: early to mid-May

SIZE: open, upright, spreading, somewhat rounded, multi-stemmed shrub 3 to 6 feet tall

BEHAVIOR: Moderate to rapid growth rate. Can form large colonies and spread. It may be trained as a hedge.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Tolerant of wet to moderate soils. May develop iron chlorosis (yellowing of leaves from iron deficiency) on very dry sites. Does best in full sun.

NATURAL RANGE: Found throughout the eastern U.S. and adjacent southern Canada west to Minnesota and south to South Carolina and Tennessee. It is found throughout Wisconsin except in Door County.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Flowers are attractive although not showy. The fruit is purplish-black and persistent from September through December. It is eaten by birds, but left until after more desirable species have been consumed. Fall foliage color can be an excellent red, especially in exposed locations.

SUGGESTED CARE: Water well during the first season and protect from rabbits.

COMPANION PLANTS: Dwarf birch, grass pink orchid, cinnamon and royal ferns, steeple bush, speckled alder, marsh milkweed, wild strawberry, quaking aspen, wild raspberry, and grass-leaved and swamp goldenrods.