

choke cherry *Rosaceae Prunus virginiana* L. symbol: PRVI



Leaf: Alternate, simple, oblong to nearly oval, 2 to 4 inches long, finely serrated margin, dark green above and paler below, minute glands on petiole.

Flower: White, in a loose 3 to 6 inches long terminal raceme, appearing after leaves.

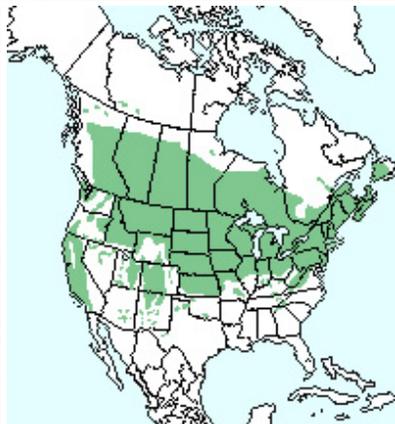
Fruit: Dark red to purple drupe, 1/3 inch in diameter, maturing in late summer.

Twig: Twigs slender, but stouter than black cherry, light brown to gray, strong unpleasant odor when broken, buds are 1/3 inch long covered with brownish scales.

Bark: Smooth, gray-brown, conspicuous lenticels that develop into shallow fissures, young stems have shallowly peeling, curling layers.

Form: Small, upright tree to 25 feet and 6 inches in diameter, often forming shrubby thickets.

Looks like: [black cherry](#) - [bitter cherry](#) - [beach plum](#) - [Klamath plum](#)



Additional Range Information:
Prunus virginiana is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting. [See states reporting choke cherry.](#)

External Links:
[USDAFS Additional Silvics](#)
[USDA Plants Database](#)

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