



Prunus ilicifolia* ssp. *ilicifolia Hollyleaf Cherry

Large shrub or small tree
Sun to part shade
Moderate to little water
Origin: California

As the name implies this evergreen shrub has glossy, holly shaped leaves with small spines and wavy edges. The leaves have an almond like scent when crushed. It grows three feet high or over 20 feet depending on soil conditions and the availability of water. Clusters of fragrant cream colored flowers bloom in spring and are followed by marble size red fruit. The fruit is a good source of food for birds. It is an easy shrub to grow with a lush appearance. It is a good choice for screens or foundations planting. It is resistant to Oak Root Fungus but susceptible to Fire Blight. The fruit can stain paving. It is edible with a sweet flavor followed by a bitter aftertaste. Do not eat the seeds as they contain cyanide.