



## Important and Interesting Information about your Cherry Tree

***Prunus padus* - Bird Cherry - is native to the UK, tough and resilient with lots of value for wildlife, it provides an excellent show in the Spring and in the Autumn.**

- ψ Please plant in accordance with the Planting Instructions enclosed with your tree; taking care not to plant it any deeper than the root-ball.
- ψ A bit of water always helps in dry weather and keeping the base clear of weeds will encourage growth by reducing competition for nutrients etc.
- ψ Ultimate height is 25 to 30 feet after 20 to 50 years, with a growth rate of 6 to 12 inches a year; a potential spread of around 15 feet, although it can be pruned if required.
- ψ It prefers full sun but is very versatile, happy in most soils if moist but well drained.
- ψ Deciduous with green leaves more oval like in shape than Wild Cherry turning yellow and orange in Autumn.
- ψ Almond scented stalks of blossom in the Spring which provide a good early nectar and pollen source for bees. Once pollinated, the flowers develop into reddish brown cherries with a bitter taste which are stripped from the trees by birds.
- ψ Woodland Trust describes it as “a stunning, scented show-stopper of a tree. In spring, nectar-loving animals flock to this beautiful tree for its almond-scented blossom”.
- ψ Like wild cherry, the spring flowers provide an early source of nectar and pollen for bees. The cherries are eaten by birds, including the blackbird and song thrush, as well as mammals such as badger, wood mouse, yellow-necked mouse and dormouse.
- ψ The foliage is eaten by caterpillars of many moth species, including the orchard ermine, brimstone and short-cloaked moth.