



# JUNEBERRY (AMELANCHIER)

## SHRUB FACTS

Juneberry is a name for a family of many **native species** of large shrubs or small trees in the **rose family (rosaceae)**. It's scientific name is Amelanchier, but is also commonly known as **juneberry, serviceberry, saskatoon, shadbush, and more.**

Juneberries are frequently planted as street trees and park trees in the city because of their beautiful white flowers in spring and bright red or orange fall foliage. This plant has often been used to **inform people on the time of year** and named accordingly (juneberry-for when the fruit is ripe, serviceberry-for when the roads are clear and traveling priests can resume service, and shadbush for when the shad runs in New England streams). **The juneberry is self fertile and commonly pollinated by bees.** The red to purple fruit is reminiscent of **blueberry and excellent when eaten raw.** It is grown commercially in Canada, and frequently made into pies and jams.

## SEASONAL CARE

Juneberry is a hardy plant that can survive between **zones 4-8.** It can tolerate wet and dry soil, but **prefers well-drained loam.** Although tolerant of partial shade, it is most productive in full sun. Although generally easy to grow, it is susceptible to cedar rust disease, lacebugs, and sometimes fireblight.

**WINTER/SPRING: Pruning is not generally necessary** but can be done in the plant's dormant period. As with most perennials, Juneberry will be most successful planted in late fall or early spring. **If loss of fruit to cedar rust is severe, pre-bloom applications of sulfur or copper fungicide can help.**

**SUMMER:** Water thoroughly once a week the first summer till the new roots have established. **Berries begin to turn color and are edible in mid June.**

**FALL:** **Transplanting and new plantings** of Juneberry are done at this time.

## NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS

**Juneberry is an excellent tasting fruit similar to blueberry, with small edible almond-flavored seeds.** The fruit is best picked when transitioning from **red to purple.** Research has shown the Juneberry contains **more antioxidants than blueberries, strawberries, and raspberries.** Excellent source of **iron and fiber.** It also contains essential vitamins, and minerals: **vitamin C, vitamin A, magnesium, folate, and phosphorus.**

## PROPAGATION

The easiest way to **propagate Juneberry is by cuttings.** Select branches from the midsection (in between, the new green wood, and the old hard wood). Remove all foliage except the top two leaves. Cut the top two leaves in half to reduce the amount of moisture loss. **Dip in rooting hormone, place in a rooting mixture of perlite and peat moss, store in indirect sunlight and keep moist until roots form.**

