

Unique Fruits for Home Landscapes

Luke Gustafson LNG@UMD.EDU
University of Maryland Extension, Charles County

Aronia (*Aronia melanocarpa*)

Shrubs are 4-6', taller if unpruned. Self-fruiting.

Varieties:

Viking, Nero

American elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* subsp. *canadensis*)

Shrubs are 5-12'. Easily propagated by hardwood or softwood cuttings. Two or more varieties needed for best fruit set. Fruit must be cooked before consumed.

Varieties:

Bob Gordon, Wyldeewood, York, Nova, Marge

Beach plum (*Prunus maritima*)

Shrubs pruned to 4-6'. Tart fruit is most often used in preserves.

Varieties: named/improved varieties not widely available

Serviceberry/Juneberry (*Amelanchier* spp.)

Plants range from shrub size to small tree. Self-fruiting. Fruit eaten fresh or made into juice or preserves.

Varieties:

Serviceberry: Smoky, Regent (compact)

Asian pear (*Pyrus pyrifolia*)

Can be grafted onto other species including callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana* a.k.a. 'Bradford' pear).

Varieties (by ripening date): **Shinsui**, Hosui, Shinseiki, 20th Century, Shinko, **Shin Li**, **Olympic**

American persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)

Trees can reach 40' at maturity. Many varieties are self-fruiting.

Varieties:

Celebrity, Early Golden, Meader, Prok, Yates

Asian persimmon (*Diospyros kaki*)

Trees can reach 25' at maturity. All Asian persimmons must be grafted to American persimmon rootstock for cold hardiness. Most cultivars are dioecious and parthenocarpic (produce fruit without pollination).

Non-Astringent Varieties:

Gwang Yang, Tamkam, Iche Ka Jiro

Astringent Varieties:

Saijo, Nikita's Gift (Asian x American hybrid)

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)

Trees can reach 30' at maturity. Fruit, leaves and twigs are generally unbothered by deer. Two or more varieties needed for fruit set.

Varieties:

Sunflower, PA Golden, NC-1, Rappahannock, Potomac, Susquehanna

Other Resources

Home & Garden Information Center

<https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/fruits>

Uncommon Fruits for Every Garden. Reich, Lee, 2004

ATTRA publications list

<https://attra.ncat.org/publication.html>

Cornell Minor Fruits website

<http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/mfruit/>

Pest Management Guide ENTO-336. Virginia Cooperative Extension. See Ch. 3 for fruits.

https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-018/ENTO-336.pdf

Calculating Hours of Sunlight

<https://www.suncalc.org/>

Mail Order Sources (alphabetical order)

Adam's County Nursery – Aspers, PA

<https://www.acnursery.com/>

Burnt Ridge Nursery – Onalaska, WA

<http://www.burntridgenursery.com/>

Edible Landscaping – Afton, VA

<http://ediblelandscaping.com/>

England's Orchard & Nursery – Mckee, KY

<http://www.nuttrees.net/>

Fedco Seeds – Clinton, ME

<http://www.fedcoseeds.com/trees/>

Hartmann's Plant Company – Lacota, MI

<https://hartmannsplantcompany.com/>

Nourse Farms – MA

<https://www.noursefarms.com/>

Indiana Berry – Plymouth, IN

<https://indianaberry.com/>

Rain Tree Nursery – Morton, WA

<http://www.raintreenursery.com/>

Stark Brothers Nursery – Louisiana, MO

<http://www.starkbros.com/>

**Note: the sources listed are for informational purposes only.
Inclusion does not indicate endorsement of any company.**