



Planting

Plant cherries in full sun in well-drained soil. Space trees on Gisela dwarf rootstocks 10 ft apart and allow 12 ft between rows. Semi-dwarf trees should be planted 18 ft apart and 24 ft between rows. Plant with the top of the root mass just at soil level. Make sure that the graft is at least 1 inch above the soil level.

Feeding

Feed cherries in the fall or winter. You can use fertilizer stakes or a good all-purpose fertilizer with a high phosphorus (high middle number – 4-8-4 for example). If lower grade mulches are used like bark or sawdust be sure to add more nitrogen as they deplete nitrogen as they're broken down.

Pruning

Young cherry trees should be pruned to encourage a favored shape. As they age remove the leader (dominant top-most branch) and the inner branches should be thinned to keep it open. In older trees it is important to remove center sprouts and old fruiting wood. Dwarf trees will need a bit more attention initially to develop scaffold branches. There are entire books dedicated to the subject of pruning, investing in a good one can ensure you have strong vigorous trees that will continue to produce heavily for its lifetime.

Disease and Pest Control

Cherries often get Blossom Blight, Leaf Spot, Brown Rot or Bacterial Canker. Insects like Scale, Leaf Roller, and Aphids can also affect cherries. For most of these scheduled sprays are required to keep the pest/disease in check. Cherries also may get fruit flies and spotted wing drosophila. Timed summer sprays of organic insecticides may be needed for control.

See a Spray Schedule to best target your efforts.

CHERRY VARIETIES

Angela – Medium to large firm fruit with good flavor. Vigorous and very productive. It ripens in July.

Bing – Most popular and widely planted. It ripens in July. Dark red cherries are firm and sweet. Crop is even-ripening, generally ripening all at the same time. Excellent fresh or canned.

Carmine Jewel – Sweet pie cherry produces large, juicy wine-colored cherries great for pie, juice. Sweet enough to eat fresh. Self-fertile. Early ripening.

Danube – A naturally dwarf Hungarian cherry producing dark red juicy fruit. Delicious fresh or in baked goods. Self-fertile and productive. Ripens late June into early July.

Glacier – Large black sweet juicy cherry. Self-fertile and crack resistant.

Jubileum – Pie cherry. Large dark purple-red cherries that are crisp and juicy. Self-fertile, produces Mid- June. Crack resistant.





CHERRY

Kristin - Large dark red sweet cherry with a firm and meaty texture. Sweet and juicy. Great for fresh eating. Ripens Mid- July. Very cold hardy.

Lambert – Large firm black cherries taste a little tangier than Bing. Ripens late July.

Lapins – Self-fertile, ripens in mid-to-late July. Dark red cherries are crack-resistant, sweet, and juicy. Great pollinator.

Montmorency – Ripens in late July. It is a great pie cherry.

Rainier – An early cherry that ripens in late June. Blushed yellow cherries are large and firm with an exceptional flavor. Vigorous and productive.

Royal Ann – Ripens in late June to early July. Blush on yellow cherries that are sweet and strongly flavored. Top variety for canning. Very productive.

Sam – Large jet-black cherries of good quality and flavor. Ripens early July. Very split- resistant. Good pollinizer.

Stella – Self-fertile cherry that ripens in late July. Large almost black cherries are firm and very sweet. Great pollinator.

Surefire – Self-fertile cherry that ripens in mid-July. Later bloomer and heavier production than many other sour cherries. Sweet enough to eat fresh too!

Sweetheart – Self-fertile cherry that ripens in mid-to-late July. Large sweet bright red cherries. Resistant to storage rot.

Tehranivee – Ripens late July. Mahogany colored fruit with dark purple- red flesh has an excellent sweet flavor. Crack resistant and self-fertile.

Van – Black shiny fruit that is slightly smaller and firmer than Bing and ripens at the same time. Very productive and a great pollinizer.

Vandalay – Self-fertile cherry. Large black skinned cherries with red flesh that is firm and flavorful. Crack resistant. Ripens in Mid – July.





CHERRY TREE CROSS-POLLINATION CHART

While some cherries are considered self-fertile (setting fruit when pollinated with their own pollen), ALL varieties will benefit or require cross-pollination to produce a good yield of fruit.

Fruit set depends on pollination performed by foraging bees. Trees should be planted within 100' feet from another for best pollination.

**Take care to not apply any pesticide, fungicide or herbicide products on or near fruit trees when they are in bloom.

**Sharing this symbol ♦ indicates incompatible cross-pollination.
Cherries typically take 2 to 3 years after planting to start fully producing.**

<u>Sweet Cherries:</u>	<u>Pollenizer:</u>	<u>Harvest Time:</u>
Bing ♦	Rainier, Lapins, Montmorency	June - Early July
Black Gold	Self-fertile	Mid June
Glacier	Self-fertile	Mid June
Lapins	Self-fertile	July
Rainier	Bing, Royal Ann, Lapins, Van	June - Early July
Royal Ann ♦	Rainier, Van, Stella	June
Stella	Self-fertile	July
Sweetheart	Self-fertile	July
Van	Bing, Lapins, Rainier, Royal Ann, Stella	July
<u>Sour Cherries:</u>	<u>Pollenizer:</u>	<u>Harvest Time:</u>
Montmorency	Self-fertile	June to early July
Surefire	Self-fertile; Pollenizes all sweet varieties	Early June

Cherries are an excellent source of fiber and potassium, as well as antioxidants including vitamin C, anthocyanins, flavonoids, and carotenoids.

