



Project BudBurst

A National Phenology Network Field Campaign for Citizen Scientists



www.budburst.org

Common Name: Chokecherry
Scientific Name: *Prunus virginiana*
Plant Family: Rosaceae

Identifying Characteristics:

Size: This rapidly growing tree reaches about 4.5 m (15 ft) at maturity.

Leaves: Leaves are alternate, oval-shaped, with fine teeth along the margins. They are glossy green on the tops and dull green underneath.

Flowers: Flowers are characteristic of the Rose family, with 5 white petals and many stamens, and are aromatic. Individual flowers are 0.6 to 1.25 cm (0.25 to 0.5 in) long; clusters of flowers form 12.5 to 15 cm (5 to 6 in) long racemes.

Bark: Gray to reddish on young trees, and darker brown and furrowed on mature trees. Lenticels are prominent (horizontal rows of raised air pores).

Habitat: Chokecherry is present in a variety of habitats and may become weedy. It prefers direct sunlight.

Bloom time: April-July

Did you know? Chokecherry was first cultivated in North America as an orchard crop in 1724. It has been used for a variety of medicinal purposes, including relief of diarrhea and sore throat.



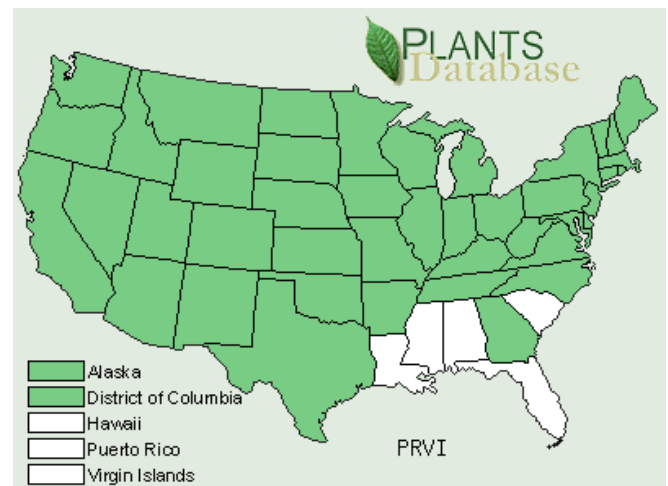
Photograph by Gary A. Monroe @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database



Photograph courtesy of U.S. Forest Service

Phenological observation:
First Leaf and First Flower

Distribution Area:



Map courtesy of USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database (plants.usda.gov)