

KENDRICK GERmplasm SERVICEBERRY

Scientific Name: *Amelanchier alnifolia* (Nutt.) Nutt. ex Roemer var. *alnifolia*

Common Name: Saskatoon Serviceberry

Release Name: Kendrick Germplasm

Selected By: Pullman PMC, USDA-NRCS

Release Cooperators: USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

Release Date: 2000, Public Release

COLD HARDINESS ZONE (USDA, 1990): 5a,5b,6a and 6b.

ORIGIN: Kendrick Germplasm serviceberry is a deciduous shrub originating from native plants growing near Kendrick, ID at an elevation of 2600 feet. Mature plant height is 5.6 feet at Pullman, Washington.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves are simple, alternate, stalked, with edges usually sawtoothed above the middle. Flowers are white racemes. Berries are dark purplish, globe-shaped, about 1/4 - 3/8 inch in diameter. Kendrick Germplasm is a lower growing, bushy shrub, with good fruit production. Kendrick Germplasm serviceberry grew to a height of 5.6 feet in 10 years at Pullman, WA. Average bloom date is May 4, fruit matures July 18 and plants are dormant October 20 at Pullman, WA. Plants produced fruit in the 4th year. Fruit production is good at Pullman, WA.

DISEASE AND INSECT PROBLEMS: No particular problems were noted with disease or pests.

SEED PRODUCTION: Propagation is usually done by seed sown in the fall. Cold/moist stratification at 40 degrees F. is necessary if natural stratification outdoors is not done. Seed will be available in limited quantities for increase to growers and nurseries from the Pullman Plant Materials Center.

SEEDING RECOMMENDATIONS: Serviceberry is found in a variety of conditions from dry, rocky slopes in full sun or in partial shade of coniferous timber. It is also found on moist, deep fertile soils forming an underbrush in aspen and lodgepole pine. It is most common on the upper limits of the Ponderosa pine zone. It is among the more valuable browse plants in the West due to its wide distribution, palatability and ready availability to livestock. It is also relished by various wildlife including birds, deer and elk. It withstands close grazing and fire remarkably well. Minimum recommended precipitation is 14 inches. Plants with adequate moisture can produce abundant fruit.

CONSERVATION USES: Intended uses include riparian area restoration in the capillary and upland areas, wildlife habitat improvement and native landscaping. Other

uses include shelterbelts and roadside beautification. Its primary intended area of use includes Major Land Resource Area (MLRA)B-9 (Palouse and Nez Perce Prairies) with secondary use in MLRA E-43 (Northern Rocky Mountains) and E-44 (Northern Rocky Mountain Valleys).

AVAILABILITY: For additional information contact: Wayne Crowder, Soil Conservationist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pullman Plant Materials Center (509) 335-7376 or email crowder@wsu.edu.