

## Red Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia* 'Brilliantissima')

6-8' x 5-10', narrow vase shape when young, rounded arching clump in old age.

CT native, found in swamps and bogs, wet and dry thickets.

Clusters of showy fragrant white April flowers.

In late summer, abundant bright glossy red fruit clusters along branches, persist in fall and winter. Fruits can be used to make tasty jams and jellies.

Glossy, dark green 2-3" leaves, gray-green beneath.

Striking brilliant scarlet fall color, compares favorably with burning bush.

Downy twigs, smooth gray bark with hint of purple.

Sun to part shade. With a few hours of sun, blooms and fruits very well. Best fruiting in full sun.

Wet to dry, clay or sand soil. Very adaptable. In wet areas, plant on hummocks or mounds, so roots have aerated zone.

Use in groups, masses, shrub borders, woodland areas, meadows. Can form colonies over time, so effective in naturalized areas where suckering growth habit is welcome. If you wish to restrain colonizing, just remove suckers.

Streamside buffers.

Habitat for bees, for birds, including Cedar Waxwings and Brown Thrashers, and butterflies, including larval food for Coral Hairstreaks.

Photos 1, 2, 7

Pat Breen, Oregon State University  
[www.oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants](http://www.oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants)

Photo 3?

Missouri Botanic PlantFinder  
[mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder](http://mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder)

Photo 4

Will Cook, Duke University  
[duke.edu/~cwcook/trees/arar.html](http://duke.edu/~cwcook/trees/arar.html)

Photos 5, 8, 9, 11

North Central Conservation District

Photo 6

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Choke-Berries- MG\\_2431\\_051013\\_121714.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Choke-Berries- MG_2431_051013_121714.jpg)

Photo 10

[www.flickr.com/photos/claytonsnatives/2206769356/in/photostream/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/claytonsnatives/2206769356/in/photostream/)

