

Prunus serrulata

COMMON NAME

Japanese hill cherry

FAMILY

Rosaceae

AUTHORITY

Prunus serrulata Lindl.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

PRUSER

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Deciduous tree up to about 12 m tall. Leaves thin, broadly ovate 80-130 by 45-60 mm, petiole 20-32 mm, lamina rounded at the base tapering to a point at the tip, glabrous above and below, with serrate margins. Inflorescence a cluster of 3-4 white to pink flowers on short lateral shoots. Fruit less than 15 mm diameter, globose, dark red-black, stone smooth.

SIMILAR TAXA

In the sub genus *Carasus* (cherries). The acuminate (tapering to a fine point, sides slightly concave) marginal teeth on the leaves and the spreading flowers distinguish this species.

FLOWERING

August, September, October

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

YEAR NATURALISED

1982

ORIGIN

China, Japan

ETYMOLOGY

serrulata: Rough edged



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Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Life Cycle Comments

Perennial.

Reproduction

seed

Dispersal

Probably birds

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/prunus-serrulata/>