

CHERRY POLLINATION



Cherries come in a variety of colors, textures and flavors. Sweet cherries are those found in stores for fresh eating. Some commonly seen varieties are ‘Bing’, a nice tasty red, or ‘Rainier’, a sweeter yellow cherry considered by many to be exotic. ‘Royal Ann’ is a yellow variety often dolled up to make maraschino cherries. In grocery stores you’ll find tart or sour cherries in the canned food aisle, ready to be made into pies.

POLLINATION: Cherry pollination is somewhat complex. Some varieties are self-fertile, so they can be planted alone and still bear fruit. They will bear larger crops if a cherry of a different type is planted nearby. Some varieties **must** be pollinated, so 2 trees must be planted, and many varieties are picky about which trees will work for pollination. This list should help:

Varieties in bold are expected for spring 2020.

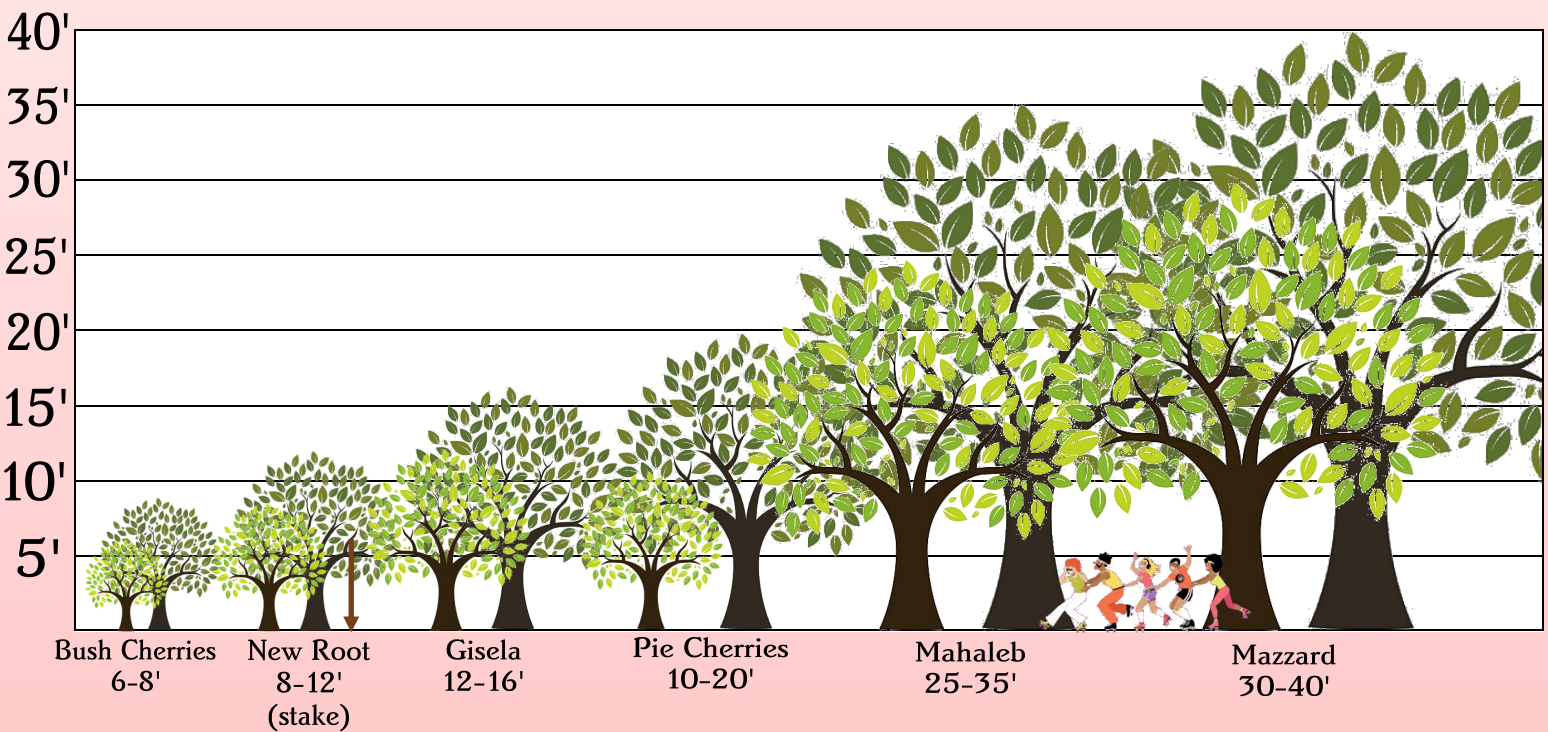
Sweet Cherries requiring pollinators	Sweet Cherries – Self-fertile
EVANS Use Black Tartarian , Royal Ann or Van	BADA BING
BING Use Black Tartarian , Carmine Jewel, Early Burlat, Rainier , Sam, Stella, or Van	GLACIER
RAINIER Use Bing, Black Tartarian , Carmine Jewel, Lambert, Sam, Stella, or Van	LAPIN
ROYAL ANN Use Black Tartarian , Early Burlat, Sam, or Van	STELLA
SAM Use Bing, Carmine Jewel, Royal Ann, Stella, or Van	SWEETHEART
VAN Use Bing, Carmine Jewel, Early Burlat, Lambert, Rainier , Royal Ann, or Sam	VANDALAY

Pie cherries are self-fertile but usually will not pollinate sweet cherries.

ROOTSTOCKS & CARE

Cherries may be grafted on to different rootstocks to control the size and achieve other goals, like fruiting at a younger age. Here is a comparison of the average size of cherries on rootstocks we see. Note that not all varieties will be available on every rootstock.

Bush cherries and pie cherries tend to be smaller trees; check the tags for expected sizes.



Cherries do well trained into a modified central leader form – get our Pruning and Training Fruit Trees handout from the Information Desk for more information. They can be susceptible to infections when pruned during wet weather, so pruning in late spring and/or summer is advised. For more information on how to maintain cherry trees, pick up Organic Cherry Care Schedule.

- IDEAS FOR PROTECTING YOUR CHERRIES FROM BIRDS:**
- Reflective scare tape
 - Bird netting
 - Predator decoy