

Western Sand Cherry (*Prunus pumila* var. *besseyi*)

Distribution: Native to northern Great Plains, including northeastern Colorado.

Growth: Shrub, 2-5 feet high and across

Adaptability: Full sun (commercial) to part shade (home garden), Sandy loam to clay loam soils that are moderate to well drained. This is one of the hardiest of deciduous shrubs.

Comments: A small, winter-hardy, relatively short-lived shrub native to the Northern Great Plains. Edible fruits which are dark purple to black. Purpleleaf Sandcherry, a hybrid, is a popular landscape shrub. Fruits eaten fresh, dried, or processed as jellies and pies.

