

Botanical Name: Prunus salicina 'Santa Rosa'

Common Name: Santa Rosa plum

Type of Plant: dicot: tree Character deciduous

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an erect, single-trunked plant, with ascending-spreading branches forming a vase-shaped or rounded canopy; bark is dark reddish-brown and shiny on older branches

Height 15'-25' (30') Spread 3/4-equal Growth Rate rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil prefers well-drained fertile soils; will tolerate most

Hardiness hardy (zones 2,3,7-12,14-23); thrives in warm humid areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, oval-obovate; finely serrate with prominently acute apex; dark dull green, 2-4" long, turns gold in fall

Flowers bisexual, white, 1/2-3/4" across; solitary or in clusters of 2-3 on short stalks; appear before leaves; Feb.-April

Fruit a drupe; firm, deep red-maroon (to purple), 1"-1-1/2" wide

Propagation: seed, followed by budding or grafting

Usage: fruit tree, espalier, or small shade tree; is superior in ornamental value to the peach but not as versatile as the apricot

Landscape Care:

Watering deep, regular soakings, established trees are fairly drought-tolerant

Fertilizing balanced, in spring and late summer; add iron

Pruning prune in same fashion as apricot; develop scaffold branches

Pests/Diseases peach leaf curl, fireblight, brown-rot, shot-hole fungus

Special Conditions

Origin: Japan Family: Rosaceae