

## ***Prunus triloba* var. *multiplex*: Flowering-Almond<sup>1</sup>**

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### **Introduction**

Reaching a height of 12 feet with an equal spread, Flowering-Almond has beautiful, double pink flowers which appear in midspring. It provides a wonderful accent in a residential yard or courtyard when in flower. Be sure to locate it in a groundcover or mulched bed, as mechanical injury or stress of any kind hasten the demise of this short-lived tree. It is also very suitable in a shrub border as a tall accent. It can be sculptured nicely into a unique form with proper pruning and training and is well suited for container gardening. Regular pruning is needed for best flowering performance. Branches cut in early spring can be forced into bloom indoors.

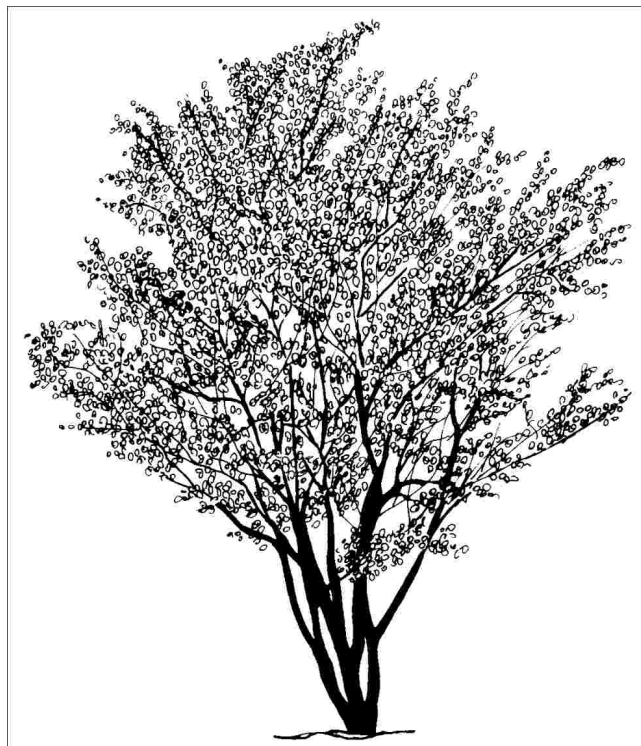
### **General Information**

**Scientific name:** *Prunus triloba* var. *multiplex*

**Pronunciation:** PROO-nus try-LOW-buh variety  
MULL-tih-plecks

**Common name(s):** Flowering-Almond,  
Double-Flowering Plum

**Family:** *Rosaceae*



**Figure 1.** Young *Prunus triloba* var. *multiplex*:  
Flowering-Almond

**USDA hardiness zones:** 3B through 6B (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

1. This document is ENH-678, one of a series of the Environmental Horticulture Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Original publication date November 1993. Revised December 2006. Visit the EDIS Web Site at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
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**Invasive potential:** little invasive potential

**Leaf margin:** double serrate, serrate, dentate

**Uses:** container or planter; trained as a standard; deck or patio; specimen; Bonsai; highway median

**Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval), obovate

**Availability:** not native to North America



Figure 2. Range

### Description

**Height:** 10 to 15 feet

**Spread:** 10 to 15 feet

**Crown uniformity:** symmetrical

**Crown shape:** vase, round

**Crown density:** moderate

**Growth rate:** moderate

**Texture:** medium

### Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf venation:** pinnate, reticulate

**Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous

**Leaf blade length:** less than 2 inches, 2 to 4 inches

**Leaf color:** green

**Fall color:** yellow, copper

**Fall characteristic:** showy

### Flower

**Flower color:** pink

**Flower characteristics:** very showy

### Fruit

**Fruit shape:** round

**Fruit length:** .5 to 1 inch

**Fruit covering:** fleshy

**Fruit color:** red

**Fruit characteristics:** attracts squirrels/mammals; not showy; fruit/leaves not a litter problem

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** branches droop; not showy; typically multi-trunked; thorns

**Pruning requirement:** little required

**Breakage:** resistant

**Current year twig color:** brown

**Current year twig thickness:** thin

**Wood specific gravity:** unknown

### Culture

**Light requirement:** full sun, partial sun or partial shade

**Soil tolerances:** clay; sand; loam; acidic; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** none

### Other

**Roots:** not a problem

**Winter interest:** no

**Outstanding tree:** yes

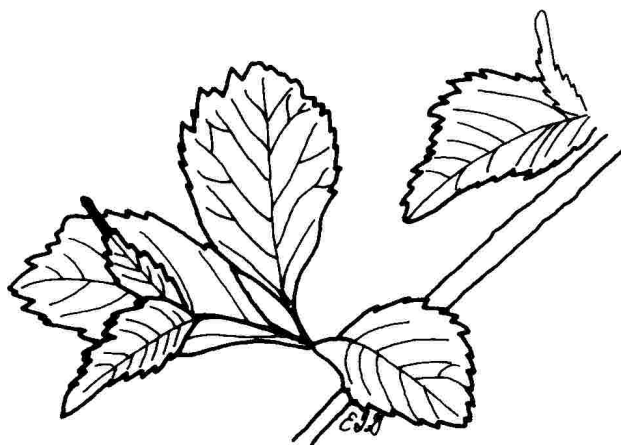
**Ozone sensitivity:** sensitive

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** susceptible

**Pest resistance:** sensitive to pests/diseases

### Use and Management

Flowering-Almond grows best in sun or partial shade on rich, moist soil. Keep turf grass cleared away from a four to six-foot diameter circle around



**Figure 3.** Foliage

the tree. It transplants well and grows at a moderate pace.

'Plena' has double flowers; var. *simplex* has single flowers sometimes followed by red fruit.

### Pests

Aphids cause distortion of new growth, deposits of honeydew, and sooty mold.

Borers attack trees under stress. Keep trees healthy with regular fertilizer applications and irrigation in drought.

Scales of several types infest *Prunus* spp. Horticultural oil can be used to help control overwintering stages.

Spider mites cause yellowing or stippling but are very difficult to see. They are usually recognized only after plant symptoms are quite advanced.

Tent caterpillars make large webbed nests in trees then eat the foliage. One defoliation may not be serious and small nests can be pruned out and destroyed. Use *Bacillus thuringiensis* when the insects are first seen and are still small.

### Diseases

A bacterium causes leaf spot and twig cankers on cherry. Small, reddish spots dry, and drop out, giving a shot holed appearance. Defoliation can be severe when conditions favor disease development. Fertilize infected trees and prune out infected branches.

A fungus causes reddish spots which drop out leaving shot holes. Once the hole appear the leaves may drop. The disease is worse in wet weather.

Black knot causes black swellings or galls on the branches. Branches with galls are pruned out.

Powdery mildew causes a white coating on the leaves.