



**ACT**  
Government

Transport Canberra  
and City Services

# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Prunus cerasifera* 'Pissardii' (Pcp)

**Common Name:** Cherry plum, White flowering plum

### Species Description

- Deciduous
- Small tree with rounded/vase shaped form
- Rough dark brown bark
- Distinctive dark red young foliage turning to bronze-purple as summer advances
- Single white flowers in profusion in spring
- Small red fruit produced occasionally

### Height and width

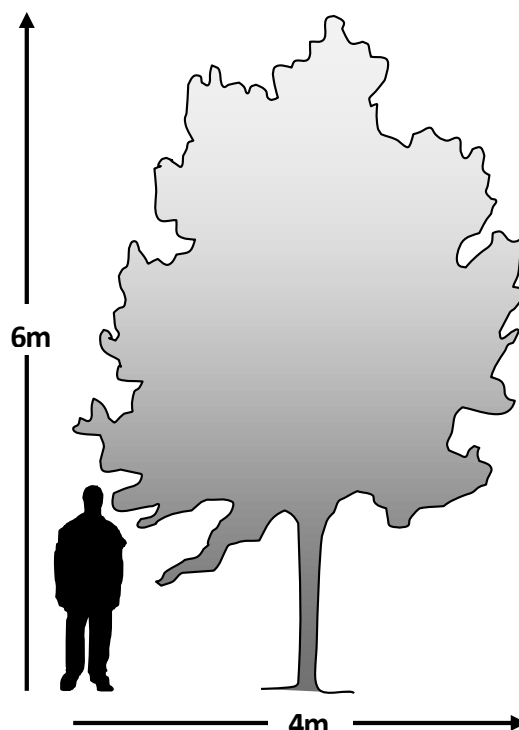
6 metres tall by 4 metres wide

### Species origin

Caucasus/Balkans. Cultivar originally discovered prior to 1880 by Mons Pissard, gardener to the Shah of Persia

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 15\text{m}^3$
- Can be used a street tree, in park plantings, in home gardens and in commercial precincts
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses



### Use considerations

- Grows well in Canberra
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and moderate drought tolerance
- Prefers good well drained soils, although will grow in a wide range of soils
- Tolerates full sun to shade
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Moderate to fast growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Produces good nectar; attracts bees and birds
- Can have occasional problems with pear and cherry slug
- Formative pruning is required to encourage a single trunk
- *Prunus cerasifera* 'Nigra' is often grown in preference due to its flower colour and density, however it is recommended to increase planting of *P. cerasifera* 'Pissardii'

### Examples in Canberra

Finders Way, Griffith and a specimen at the Canadian High Commission, planted by Dame Pattie Menzies in 1965

### Availability

Commercially available