**Prunus triloba var. multiplex**  
**Flowering-Almond**

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson

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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 (Fig. 1). 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  
**USDA hardness zones:** 3B through 6 (Fig. 2)  
**Origin:** not native to North America  
**Uses:** Bonsai; container or above-ground planter; recommended for buffer strips around parking lots or for median strip plantings in the highway; near a deck or patio; trainable as a standard; specimen; no proven urban tolerance  
**Availability:** generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

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2. Edward F. Gilman, associate professor, Environmental Horticulture Department; Dennis G. Watson, associate professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville FL 32611.
Prunus triloba var. multiplex -- Flowering-Almond

**Texture:** medium

**Foliage**
- **Leaf arrangement:** alternate (Fig. 3)
- **Leaf type:** simple
- **Leaf margin:** dentate; double serrate; serrate
- **Leaf shape:** elliptic (oval); obovate
- **Leaf venation:** pinnate; reticulate
- **Leaf type and persistence:** deciduous
- **Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches; less than 2 inches
- **Leaf color:** green
- **Fall color:** copper; yellow
- **Fall characteristic:** showy

**Flower**
- **Flower color:** pink
- **Flower characteristics:** spring flowering; very showy

**Fruit**
- **Fruit shape:** round
- **Fruit length:** .5 to 1 inch
- **Fruit covering:** fleshy
- **Fruit color:** red
- **Fruit characteristics:** attracts squirrels and other mammals; inconspicuous and not showy; no significant litter problem

**Trunk and Branches**
- **Trunk/bark/branches:** droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; routinely grown with, or trainable to be grown with, multiple trunks; not particularly showy; no thorns
- **Pruning requirement:** needs little pruning to develop a strong structure
- **Breakage:** resistant
- **Current year twig color:** brown
- **Current year twig thickness:** thin

*Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.*
**Culture**

**Light requirement:** tree grows in part shade/part sun; tree grows in full sun  
**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; well-drained  
**Drought tolerance:** moderate  
**Aerosol salt tolerance:** none  

**Other**

**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem  
**Winter interest:** no special winter interest  
**Outstanding tree:** tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more  
**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time  
**Ozone sensitivity:** sensitive or moderately tolerant  
**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** susceptible  
**Pest resistance:** very sensitive to one or more pests or diseases which can affect tree health or aesthetics

**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 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. Horticulural 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.