

# #Cherry

Sour cherry  
*Prunus cerasus* L.



## Characteristics

Mostly found a shrub (sometimes as a small tree, up to 8 m high) without well-defined trunk.

- ❖ The **leaves** are deciduous, obovate (egg-like) oblong with acute tips, long petioles and mildly serrate margins, 5-12 cm long, 3-5 cm, glossy above.
- ❖ **Flowers** are white with 5 petals, 2.5–3.5 cm in diameter, two to five in a group.
- ❖ **Fruit** is cherry, approx 1,5 cm large, bright red, sour, mostly grouped in clusters of 2-5 fruits.
- ❖ The **bark** is red to gray-brown, tight but somewhat rough, with expressed horizontal lenticels.



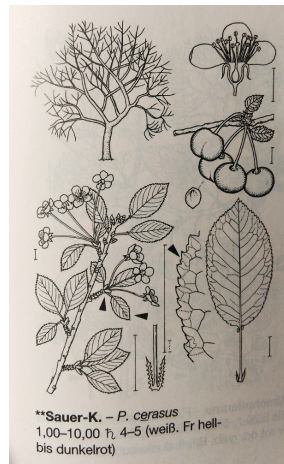
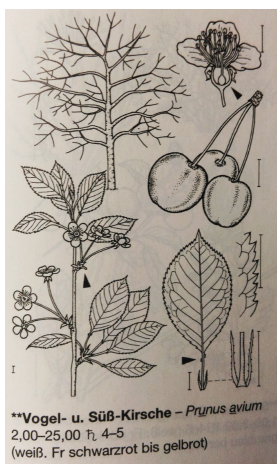
## Distribution

Sour cherry is widely naturalized and present throughout Europe as well as SW Asia.



## Don't mistake with

sweet cherry, *Prunus avium* L. which is more often in form of a tree and can be up to 30 m high, (8-15 cm x 4-7 cm) has larger leaves, dull above. It has dark red fruit.



(source: Jäger, E. J., Müller, F., Ritz, C. M., Welk, E., Wesche, K., 2013: Rothmaler Exkursionsflora von Deutschland, Gefäßpflanzen: Atlasband, 12. Auflage, page 524. Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg.)