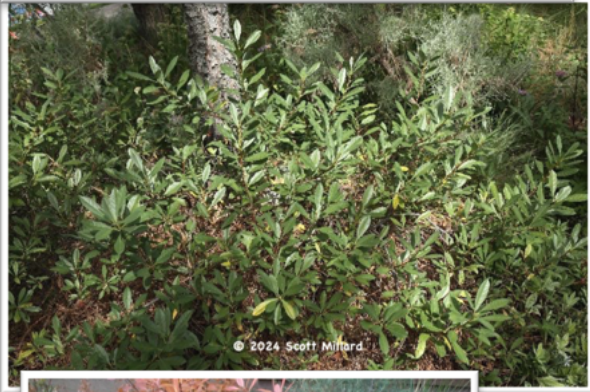


Prunus pumila var. *besseyi*

Sand Cherry



Plant type:	Deciduous Shrub
Season of Interest:	April - August
Height: 6'	Spread: 5'
Water needs:	Medium
Native Region:	CO, KS, NE, UT, WY
Elevation:	3,500-7,500'
Important to know:	Ripened fruit is dark purple. Good fall color. Relatively short-lived ~20 years



Maintenance:	Low
Garden uses:	Beds, Borders, Pollinator Gardens
Habitat:	Rocky slopes, sandstone cliffs and bluffs

Ease of Propagation: Difficult

Propagation: From Softwood cuttings or seed. Clean seed ASAP. Embryos have a dormancy period of several months, but dry storage reduces viability down to <30%. Store in barely moist perlite or vermiculite in the fridge over winter which accomplishes 3+ months of cold stratification. Sow in spring, cover, protect from birds. (It works. Seedlings have two pairs of true leaves by early June.) For softwood cuttings, take in cool part of day, then IBA/NAA dip. Stick in ground right away. They don't recover from wilting. Per Judith Phillips book, "Plants for Natural Gardens", p 64.)