

Malus 'Red Sentinel'

Red Sentinel flowering Crabapple



Malus 'Red Sentinel' (crab apple 'Red Sentinel') originated from the Avondale nursery in Auckland, New Zealand. This selection was brought on the market there by nurseryman Hayward Wright in 1925. It is a healthy growing tree with an egg-shaped and later round, semi-open crown. The weight of fruits causes the branches to sag down as the tree matures. 'Red Sentinel' gets five to six metres tall and three to four metres wide.

Malus 'Red Sentinel' is known in particular for the large quantities of bright red fruits which are produced in autumn and a recognisable feature of this plant. They are shaped like a cherry, hang together in bundles and stay on the tree well into winter. The blossom starts around April or May with a pink bud, merging into white to bright soft pink in an abundance of bundles. A beautiful sight! The foliage emerges bronze-coloured and changes to green in summer with red petioles and finishes off a lovely orange-red in the autumn. *Malus* 'Red Sentinel' has dark brown bark and twigs and, last but not least, is also important for biodiversity: birds and small mammals love the fruits and insects such as bees and butterflies gladly seek out the nectar from the flowers.

'Red Sentinel' requires a nutrient-rich and moist soil. The selection tolerates wind and semi-paved areas but it should be added that the tree is rather prone to scab. This is more of a problem on soils of an inferior quality, if the crown is too dense and cannot dry out properly or if over-fertilised. *Malus* 'Red Sentinel' is a splendid small tree for parks, green spaces and gardens which can also be trained as a pleached tree.

SEASONAL COLOURS



TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: standard trees, half-stem trees, multi-stemmed trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella, espalier | **Topiary:** hedge, hedge element, archway, espalier

USE

Location: park, central reservation, in containers, large garden, small garden, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones | **Pavement:** none, open

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: rounded | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 5 - 6 m | **Width:** 3 - 4 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 3A - 8B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients, rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Host plant/forage plant:** bees, butterflies, birds, small mammals | **Extreme environments:** tolerates air pollution

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: raceme, striking, singular, small | **Flower colour:** white, pale pink | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovate, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange, orange-red | **Fruits:** striking, small, crabapple/ornamental apple | **Fruit colour:** red | **Bark colour:** dark brown | **Bark:** smooth | **Twig colour:** dark brown | **Twigs:** bare, pendulous | **Root system:** shallow, extensive, slightly branched, central root