

# *Prunus serrulata* 'Kiku-shidare-zakura'

## Chrysanthemum weeping cherry, Weeping oriental cherry, Cheal's weeping



*Prunus serrulata* 'Kiku-shidare-zakura' (Chrysanthemum weeping cherry) is one of the tree species that was planted along the Arakawa River near Tokyo, Japan at the end of the 19th century. Young specimens have mainly horizontal branches. As the tree ages, its branches start to hang more, forming a weeping habit. *Prunus serrulata* 'Kiku-shidare-zakura' does not grow to be a very tall tree, but by tying and pruning it to guide it, it can reach a height of 6 metres. Like *Prunus serrulata* 'Amanogawa', *Prunus serrulata* 'Kanzan' and *Prunus triloba*, the Chrysanthemum weeping cherry is widely used in gardens in the western hemisphere.

In late April, early May, the 'Kiku-shidare-zakura' cultivar blooms racemes of densely stuffed, soft pink flowers that look like Chrysanthemums. Simultaneous with the blossoms, the oval leaves bud bronze, then turn bright green in the summer and a beautiful yellow-orange in the autumn. Young twigs change colour as the branches get older, going from green to brown, and the grey bark forms furrows when it is older. Its hanging branches give the cultivar an interesting winter silhouette. *Prunus serrulata* 'Kiku-shidare-zakura' does not bear fruit.

It will grow best in a sunny, sheltered environment with nutrient-rich, moist soil with a lot of space to root. *Prunus serrulata* 'Kiku-shidare-zakura' is a beautiful tree that is perfect for use in large and small gardens and park-like situations like cemeteries.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees

### USE

**Location:** park, central reservation, large garden, small garden, patio, cemetery | **Pavement:** none

### CHARACTERISTICS

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

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** intolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** neutral, alkaline (7.8 - 8.0)

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, striking, stuffed | **Flower colour:** pink | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovoid, serrate, doubly serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange | **Fruits:** no fruit | **Bark colour:** grey | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels, horizontal branches, pendulous | **Root system:** shallow, slightly branched

