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Prunus japonica

[Synonyms : *Cerasus japonica*, *Prunus nakai*]

ORIENTAL BUSH CHERRY is a deciduous shrub. Native from eastern China to Korea and Japan, it has small white or pale pink flowers.

It is also known as Chinese bush cherry, Chinese cherry, Japanese bush cherry, Japanese plum, Korean bush cherry, *Třešeň japonská* (Czech), and *Yu li* (Chinese).

Japonica means ‘of or from Japan’.

The sweet-tasting small, dark red fruit have been eaten raw or used to make pies and jellies.

This is a plant that records suggest is enthusiastically embraced by bonsai enthusiasts.

South-eastern Asian authorities indicate that in that region the shrub’s primary attributes are medicinal.

Medicinally, Chinese herbalists have used the root for treating fevers in children, worms, constipation and tooth problems.