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*Prunus serrulata*

[Synonyms : *Cerasus serrulata*, *Padus serrulata*, *Prunus mutabilis*, *Prunus padus*, *Prunus pseudocerasus*, *Prunus tenuiflora*, *Serrulata alboplana*]

**JAPANESE FLOWERING CHERRY** is a deciduous tree. Native to China it has small double, white flowers.

It is also known as *Cerisier du Japon* (French), East Asian cherry, Flowering cherry, Japanese cherry, *Japanische Blüten-Kirsche* (German), *Japansk kirsebaer* (Danish), Oriental cherry, *Sakura* (Czech), *Sakura ozdobná* (Czech), *Shan ying hua* (Chinese), and *Střemcha ozdobná* (Czech).

This is a parent of many cultivated varieties.

*Serrulata* is derived from Latin *serrula* (little saw) meaning ‘with small serrated or saw-like teeth’.

It is the Japanese flowering cherry that was chosen by Japan as the remembrance symbol of the 78,000 people killed in Hiroshima by the atomic bomb dropped by the Western Allies in August 1945 and of the 40,000 killed in Nagasaki by that dropped three days later at the end of World War II. The tree is usually the one chosen for any planted on 6<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> August anniversaries of these bombings.