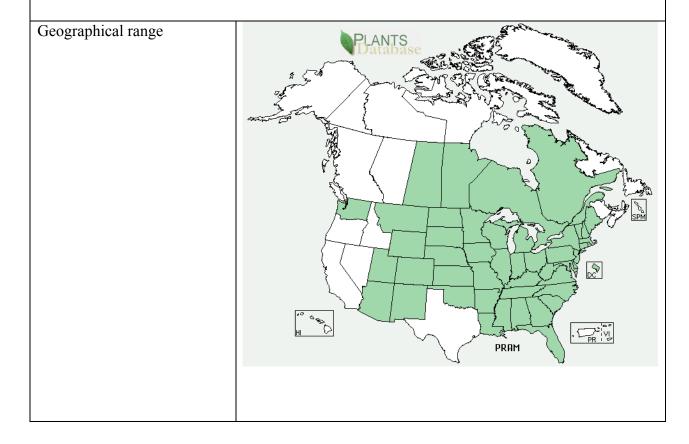
Plant Propagation Protocol for *Prunus americana* ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

Protocol URL: https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/PRAM.pdf



TAXONOMY		
Plant Family		
Scientific Name	Rosaceae	
Common Name	Rose family	
Species Scientific Na	me	
Scientific Name	Prunus americana Marshall	
Varieties	var. lanata Sudw.	
	var. nigra (Aiton) Waugh	
Sub-species	N/A	

Cultivar	N/A	
Common Synonym(s)	Prunus americana Marshall var. americana	
	Prunus mexicana S.Watson, sensu Gleason & Cronquist (1991)	
Common Name(s)	American plum	
Species Code (as per USDA	PRAM	
Plants database)		
GENERAL INFORMATION		



	PLANTS PRAM
Ecological distribution	In the sun, partly shaded, or shaded.
	Moist soil with pH of about neutral (pH 6.8-7.2).
	CaCO3 Tolerance is high
	Favors moist, rich, well-drained loams (Wildflower).
Climate and elevation range	Intolerant of shade and drought; it requires the equivalent of 22
	to 25 inches of precipitation (University of Florida).
Local habitat and abundance	Prairies, woodlands, pastures, and along roadsides and
	riverbanks (USDA "American").
Plant strategy type /	Adaptive to various environment
successional stage	
Plant characteristics	Shrub/tree – Deciduous. Height is about 15 to 20 feet, and it
	spreads out 12 to 18 feet. Both plant density and growth rate are
	moderate. Typically multi-trunked or clumping stems (Lewis).
	Flower – white and bloom in spring.

	Fruit – yellow or orange fleshy fruit, attracting birds (Gilman).		
PROPAGATION DETAILS			
Ecotype	N/A		
Propagation Goal	Plant		
Propagation Method	Seed		
Product Type	Propagules - seeds		
Stock Type	Seed		
Time to Grow	N/A		
Target Specifications	N/A		
Propagule Collection	Collect seeds from the fruit in the summer (usually in August)		
Instructions	when the color of fruit turns dark purple. Seeds can be extracted		
	by maceration and recovered by flotation (USDA "Plants").		
Propagule	Fairly low germination – 6.5 seeds per gram (USDA		
Processing/Propagule	"American").		
Characteristics			
Pre-Planting Propagule	Harvest the fruit in the summer (August), and seeds can be		
Treatments	planted outdoors in the fall so they are naturally "cold		
	stratified." Natural germination occurs in the first or second year		
	after seedfall, depending on the year (USDA "Plants").		
	Put seeds in 50°F or cooler over the winter. Seeds need to be air		
	dried and stored in sealed containers. Cold stratification takes up		
	to 6 months in a moist environment to break seed dormancy.		
	Seedlings reach suitable size for transplanting in one to two		

	years (USDA "Plants").	
	Germination environment temperature is 86 °F during the day	
	and 68 °F at night. Stratify in moist sand (University of	
	Wisconsin).	
Growing Area Preparation /	Space plants 8 feet within rows and 16 feet between rows	
Annual Practices for	(Missouri).	
Perennial Crops		
Establishment Phase Details	N/A	
Length of Establishment	1 to 2 years until transplanting (USDA).	
Phase		
Active Growth Phase	1 to 2 years	
Length of Active Growth	1 to 2 years	
Phase		
Hardening Phase	N/A	
Length of Hardening Phase	N/A	
Harvesting, Storage and	N/A	
Shipping		
Length of Storage	6 months	
Guidelines for Outplanting /	American plum is intolerant of heavy browsing and trampling	
Performance on Typical Sites	(Lewis).	
Other Comments	N/A	
INFORMATION SOURCES		
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