

Serviceberry

(Amelanchier spp. — includes Saskatoon, Autumn Brilliance, Shadblow, and Regent Serviceberry)

Serviceberry is a **small, hardy ornamental tree/shrub** valued for its **white spring flowers, edible berries, excellent fall color, and** adaptability. In Colorado, Serviceberry performs well but is prone to **rust, leaf spot, fire blight, borers, aphids, and environmental stress** in high heat.



AMELANCHIER X GRANDIFLORA
'AUTUMN BRILLIANCE'
Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry

Height: 20'
Spread: 10'
Growth Rate: Variable
Shape: Upright
Spreading

Foliage: Green
Fall Color: Red-orange
Flowers: White, clusters
Fruit: Edible, purple-blue berries

Distinctive Features: Grass-like spring flowers followed by edible red fruits in June. The tree glows in the fall with a red-orange fall color. The smooth gray branches add winter interest along with strong structure that resists ice or snow damage.

Midwest Native

SGN Tried and True

GROWER'S NOTE: Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry performs well in our zone. See our Best Insect, Fungal and Nematode Resistant list for more information. As a young plant, it flushes strong. The single trunk tree takes a little longer to set up than the multi-trunk. No one else has this tree has something interesting to offer in every season - especially in the summer when the berries are a nice treat in the forest!

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SGN
TREES



Seasonal Pest & Disease Calendar

Icons: 🌸 Spring | ☀️ Summer | 🍂 Fall | ❄️ Winter

Problem	Type	Active Season	Icons
Rust (cedar–serviceberry rust)	Fungus	Spring–Summer	🌸 ☀️
Leaf spot / Entomosporium	Fungus	Spring–Summer	🌸 ☀️
Fire blight	Bacteria	Spring–Early Summer	🌸 ☀️

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Active Season</u>	<u>Icons</u>
Aphids	Insect	Spring–Fall	  
Scale insects	Insect	Spring crawlers; visible year-round	 
Borers (roundheaded / flatheaded)	Insect/borer	Summer	
Sawfly larvae	Insect/defoliator	Spring–Summer	 
Drought/heat stress	Abiotic	Summer–Fall	 

Pest & Disease Guide (Homeowner-Friendly)

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Common Symptoms</u>	<u>Treatment & Management</u>
Rust (Common)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright orange leaf spots • Distorted leaves • Premature leaf drop • Caused by nearby junipers (alternate host) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove fallen leaves • Avoid planting close to junipers if possible • Fungicides may help if applied early
Leaf Spot / Entomosporium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small red/purple spots • Leaves yellow and drop early • Worse in wet spring weather 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rake leaves • Improve airflow • Fungicide rarely required
Fire Blight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackened “shepherd’s crook” shoots • Blossom blight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prune 8–12" below visible infection

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Common Symptoms</u>	<u>Treatment & Management</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oozing cankers • Rapid twig dieback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitize tools • Remove severely infected trees • Antibiotic sprays only during bloom (pros)
Aphids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sticky honeydew • Sooty mold • Curled leaves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hose-rinse foliage • Encourage lady beetles • Systemic insecticides for major outbreaks
Scale Insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard bumps on twigs • Honeydew and sooty mold • Yellowing leaves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat crawler stage in late spring • Dormant oil in late winter • Prune heavily infested branches
Borers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exit holes in stems • Sawdust-like frass • Branch dieback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain tree vigor (watering + mulch) • Avoid trunk wounds • Preventive pro sprays in summer if needed
Sawfly Larvae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skeletonized leaf margins • Small green larvae feeding in groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand-pick early • Hose-spray leaves • Pro treatment if severe
Environmental Stress (Heat/Drought)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaf scorch • Early yellowing • Sparse canopy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep water every 2–3 weeks • Mulch 2–4" deep • Avoid hot, reflected-heat planting sites

When to Worry vs. When It's Cosmetic

● When to Worry (action recommended)

- Fire blight symptoms (blackened, curled twigs)
- Severe rust or leaf spot causing major defoliation
- Borer exit holes paired with canopy thinning
- Heavy scale with sticky honeydew and black mold
- Progressive decline during hot summers
- Extensive dieback on multiple limbs

These may require **professional diagnosis or targeted treatment**.

● Mostly Cosmetic (monitor only)

- Light rust spotting in early summer
- Minor leaf spot during wet springs
- Occasional aphids or sawfly feeding
- Slight leaf scorch in hot weather
- Early color change in drought

These issues typically improve with **seasonal conditions, proper watering, and good cultural care**.