

## ***Prunus avium Plena***

*syn. Prunus avium Flore Plena*

*Double Gean / Double flowered Wild Cherry*



**April 2014**

*The pure white double flower in springtime*

Prunus avium Plena is the spectacular double flowered variety of our native wild cherry which has been in cultivation for over 200 years.

It is a medium sized, deciduous tree which can reach up to 15m in height and grows with an conical open shape and an even, symmetrical crown. Ideally it is planted as a park or woodland tree but it can also be used in urban environments given the right conditions.

In Spring, the magnificence of this tree shows when it is laden with the brilliant double white flowers, hanging in pendulous clusters from the branches.

The leaves emerge with a bronze tinge to them, becoming mid green and elliptical as they mature. In Autumn they turn vibrant shades of reds, oranges and yellows. Plena is a sterile variety and so has no fruit unlike Prunus avium.

Like most varieties of ornamental cherry, Prunus avium Plena grows best in a position with full sun and a neutral-alkaline, free draining soil (not acidic). They don't like to get their feet wet and so will not tolerate waterlogged or wet ground.

### ***Plant Profile***

**Name:** Prunus avium Plena

**Common Name:** Double Gean

**Family:** Rosaceae

**Height:** 10-15m

**Demands:** Full sun and free draining neutral-alkaline soil

**Foliage:** Bronze tinged in Spring, later with long elliptical leaves

**Flower:** Masses of pure white, double flowers in Spring

**Bark:** Chestnut bark with prominent horizontal lenticels. Becomes silvery with age.

**Fruit:** Sterile variety so should produce no fruit



*Prunus avium Plena 30-40cm girth standards in air-pot*

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Deepdale  
*Prunus avium Plena*  
 has been in cultivation  
 in the UK since the  
 18th Century



*Vibrant tones of red, orange and yellow in Autumn*



*Field grown multistem plants*



*Multi-stemmed plant in Spring*



*Prunus avium Plena as a multistem*



*Field grown standards*



*Autumn foliage of Prunus avium Plena*



*Spring flower on 20-25cm standards*