

FRANKSTON FLOWERING PEACH

Prunus persica



Characteristics

- Type: Tree
- Zone: 5 to 8
- Height: to 19 feet
- Bloom Color: Pink to red
- Bloom Time: April
- Flower: Showy, Fragrant
- Sun: Full sun
- Water: Medium
- Maintenance: High
- Attracts: Birds

Culture

Grow in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Prefers moist, acidic soils. Ornamental peach trees are sometimes referred to as non-fruiting or flowering fruit trees. The gorgeous blossoms bloom in the spring with clusters of single or double flowering peach petals. Single petal flowering peaches are more likely to bear fruit, but the flavor will not be equal to that of a peach tree grown exclusively for the quality of the fruit.

This Frankston Peach was propagated from a cutting from a tree in Frankston, Texas. Because the specific cultivar is unknown, it was nicknamed Frankston Peach. It does have small fruit with white, bitter flesh.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Prunus persica, commonly called peach, is native to China. It is grown for its luscious fruit but some cultivars are grown chiefly for their flowers and inedible fruit. Species trees grow up to 25' tall and wide but peach trees sold in commerce today are grafted to rootstocks which control the size of the tree.

Genus name from Latin means plum or cherry tree.

Specific epithet means Persia. *Prunus persica* reached Europe from China through Persia.

Problems

Peaches generally are susceptible to numerous insect problems, including peach twig borer, aphids, spider mites and scale. Also susceptible to numerous disease problems, including peach scab, peach leaf curl, leaf spots, bacterial canker, root rot and mildew. Flowering may be impaired by cold winter temperatures and/or late frosts.

Garden Uses

Grown primarily for its profuse, early spring bloom. Interesting as a specimen or mixed in the shrub border.