



Bitter Cherry

Prunus emarginata

Rose Family (*Rosaceae*)

General Description: Small tree 35-45 ft, commonly forms thickets. Trunk size is rarely over 10" in diameter. The crown of the tree is narrow to pointed. Grows in moist, open woods, along streams, lakes; prefers full sun.

Key Characteristics: Alternately arranged buds, less than 1/4", and widest at the base. Leaf scars are raised, triangular, have 3 bundle scars.

Confused With: serviceberry and non-native *Prunus* spp. Lateral rings are a distinguishing feature for cherry; though it can be almost impossible to differentiate from non-native cherry trees.

Photo: Joe Bettis