



bee-friendliness rating

Gift to Nature's Guide to Bee-Friendly Plants

common name

Almond

botanical name

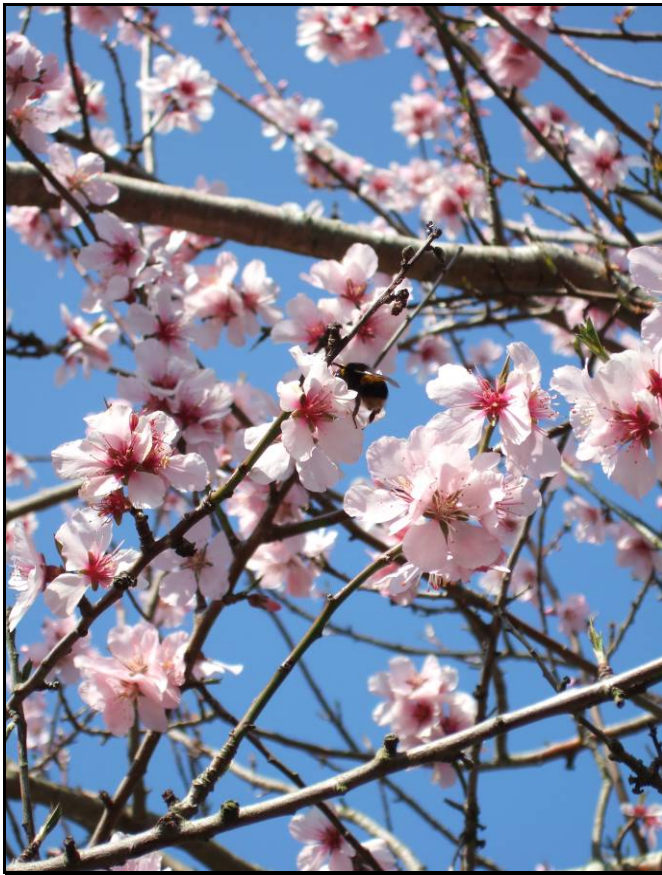
Prunus dulcis

family

Rosaceae

origin

West Asia



nuts in autumn ^

< blossom in early spring

type of plant:
tree
climber
shrub
herbaceous perennial
biennial
annual

height ∞ rootstock:
< 0.5 m
0.5-1 m
1-2 m
2-5 m
5-10 m
> 10 m

suitable soil types:
chalk
sand
clay
well-drained
damp
wet

suitable aspects:
sunny
semi-shade
shade

Months in flower - useful early blossom											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Months in leaf											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Edible plant? Excellent nuts rich in protein, essential unsaturated fats, calcium and other minerals. But beware TOXIC cyanide in bitter almonds.

Useful plant? Firewood and timber, as with all trees. Oil as a lubricant, carrier in aromatherapy. Dyes from leaves, nuts, roots. Nuts have medicinal uses, but beware TOXIC cyanide in bitter almonds. Always seek advice from a professional before using a plant medicinally.

Hive bees, bumble bees, and solitary bees all need both nectar and pollen. Hive bees also need enough to make spare honey for people. For hive bees, see also leaflets from the British Beekeepers Association at www.britishbee.org.uk/information_leaflets.php. For bumble bees, see also www.bumblebeeconservationtrust.co.uk/gardening_for_bumblebees.htm. For more plants, see F.N. Howes *Plants and Beekeeping* 1979 Faber & Faber ISBN 0 571 11358 3, out of print but available second-hand. For more information on edible and useful plants, see www.pfaf.org. For native plants and animals associated with them, see the Postcode Plants Database <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/fff/index.html>.