Hawthorn Berry Tree

Hawthorn trees are a group in the genus Crataegus, which is actually in the Rose family. They are a smaller tree that grows 15-25 ft. tall and is often multi-trunked or has water sprouts (suckers). They flower in spring and produce tiny small red fruits that look like apples. After they leaf out they have showy white clusters of flowers. Carriere Hawthorn is a little more erect and opened branched with dark green leaves. Green Hawthorne (Winter King) grows a little bigger and has berries after the leaves fall off.

Size: Depending on variety, normally grows 15' – 35'

Exposure: Full sun

How to Plant: Plant in fall to allow for deep roots to take hold.

Pruning: Keep suckers trimmed and maintain shape.

Water needs: regular watering

Soil: Ordinary well drained garden soil is best. Planting in somewhat lean conditions is best.

Fertilization: No regular fertilizing required. Do not over fertilize.

Snapshot: This time of year they can easily be spotted with fall color and beautiful little red berries. Hawthorns are normally a smaller, twiggy type of tree that often has suckers if left unattended. Most grow in a wide variety of zones, 1-14 and 14-17 depending on variety. Hawthorns grow in almost any soil as long as they are well drained. Rich soil, excess water and too much fertilizer will result in excess growth, suckers and fireblight. If you would like to take a look at them, go by the CVS parking lot in Angel Camp and view the beautiful berries on these lovely trees.

Novella Springer Calaveras Master Gardener San Andreas