# **European Cotoneaster**



# European Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster integerrimus)

### **General Description**

European Cotoneaster is a large shrub native to Europe, western Asia and Siberia. 'Centennial' was released by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Plant Materials Center at Bismarck. Produces showy red fruits.

#### **Leaves and Buds**

Bud Arrangement - Alternate.

Bud Color - Brown to pale gray.

Bud Size - 1/8 inch long.

Leaf Type and Shape - Simple, elliptic-ovate with an acute point.

Leaf Margins - Entire with no serrations.

Leaf Surface - Glabrate upper, hairy beneath.

Leaf Length - 3/4 to 1½ inches.

Leaf Width - 1/2 to 1 inch.

Leaf Color - Dark blue-green above, whitish-gray hairs below; yellow fall color.

#### Flowers and Fruits

Flower Type - Borne in 2-5 flowered cymes.

Flower Color - Pinkish-white.

Fruit Type - Berry-like pome.

Fruit Color - Rosy-red.

#### **Form**

Growth Habit - Spreading, open and upright arching branches, large shrub.

Texture - Medium-fine, summer; medium, winter.

Crown Height - 8 to 12 feet.

Crown Width - 8 to 12 feet.

Bark Color - Glossy-brown.

Root System - Fibrous, spreading.

## **Environmental Requirements**

#### Soils

Soil Texture - Adapted to a variety of soils. Soil pH - 5.0 to 7.5. Not adapted to alkaline or saline soils. Windbreak Suitability Group - 1, 3, 4, 4C, 5.

#### **Cold Hardiness**

USDA Zone 3.

#### Water

Likes sites with moisture or high water table. Does not do well on droughty or poorly-drained soils.

#### Light

Full sun or light shade.

#### **Uses**

#### Conservation/Windbreaks

A tall shrub for farmstead and field windbreaks.

#### Wildlife

Fruit attracts many species of birds.

#### **Agroforestry Products**

No known products.

#### Urban/Recreational

Wide variety of uses in landscaping.

#### **Cultivated Varieties**

Centennial Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster integerrimus* 'Centennial') - Introduced by USDA-NRCS, Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota, as a cultivar seed strain.

# **Related Species**

Hedge Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster lucidus)

#### **Pests**

Common diseases include fireblight. Common insect pests include pear slug. Cotoneaster should not be planted near ornamental or orchard apples due to increased risk of fireblight damage to the crabapples/apples.