



Prunus domestica 'Belle de Louvain'



Height	6-8 m
Width	4-6m
Crown	round/spherical, half-open crown, capricious growing
Bark and branches	brown
Leaf	green
Flowers	white, pink, flowers in April
Fruits	edible fruits, red, purple/brown, blue
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	6 (-23,3 to -17,8 °C)
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), valuable for bees (honey plant)
Application	small gardens, patio gardens
Shape	clearstem tree, clearstem fruit tree

Belle de Louvain' is a strong-growing plum tree with a slightly erratic, semi-open crown of 6-8 m in height. Initially the tree grows quite steeply upwards, but after a few years the crown becomes rounded. The tree flowers in April with white-pink blossom. Belle de Louvain' is not self-pollinating, which means that a tree of another plum variety should be nearby for good fruit bearing. Preferably, 'Opal', 'Reine Claude d'Althaus' or 'Victoria' are used for this purpose. The plums of 'Belle de Louvain' are very large, slightly elongated and red-blue in colour. The flesh is yellow-green, fairly firm and juicy. The flavour is somewhat bland and not very strong. The plums are ready for picking in the second half of August. They are traditionally used mainly to make jelly and jam. Fruit bearing has alternating years, so annual rich fruiting is not guaranteed. 'Belle de Louvain' was found by the Belgian nurseryman Mons in Leuven, around 1840. Hardiness zone 6.