

# SARDI – Cherry Breeding Program

## Sweet Cherry Selection Descriptors

### ‘Sir Douglas’

South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI)  
Lenswood Centre

**‘Sir Douglas’ is a superior quality early to mid-season, fresh market cherry variety featuring resistance to rain cracking and good size.**



#### General Information

Parentage:	Stella x Stella
Fruit size:	Medium to Large
Shape:	Cordate
Skin:	Mahogany
Juice:	Pink
Eating quality:	Fair to good
Stone size:	Intermediate
Cropping:	Intermediate
Pollination:	Self-fertile
Maturity:	Early to Mid-Season
TSS level:	19%
Firmness:	Firm
Stem length	Medium (30-40mm)
Full Bloom:	Mid season (3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct)
Rain cracking:	Slightly susceptible

The purpose of this Descriptor Guide is to provide interested parties with the information required to make an informed decision on the planting of ‘Sir Douglas’.

Trees of ‘Sir Douglas’ are available commercially through ANFIC nurseries. ‘Sir Douglas’ is protected under Provisional Plant Breeders Rights; a signed non-propagation agreement is required prior to delivery.

All data presented in this guide refers to trees grown at the Lenswood Research Centre. Commercial plantings throughout the Australia are currently yielding and information that may be more relevant to particular localities may be available from other growers or local nurseries.

SARDI has limited data on the compatibility and performance of ‘Sir Douglas’ on different rootstocks some of which will be untested.

**Characteristics** Matures early to mid-season (14<sup>th</sup> Dec at Lenswood Centre), shows intermediate cropping efficiency, has an upright growth habit and medium to strong tree vigour. Fruit size is medium to large, averaging 9 grams and 77% of fruit sampled had a diameter greater than 25 millimetres. Fruit is cordate shaped. Fruit skin and flesh colour is mahogany. Eating quality of the fruit is fair to good (sugars 19%, acid 3.6). The fruit are firm and slightly susceptible to cracking in an average rainfall year (3.5% cracks). Fruit stalk length is 30- 40 mm . Stone size is intermediate, 10-15 mm long. The variety is self-fertile.  
(Source: [www.sardi.sa.gov.au/pages/hort/breeding/cherries](http://www.sardi.sa.gov.au/pages/hort/breeding/cherries)).

**Origin and Breeding** Controlled pollination: seed parent ‘Stella’ x pollen parent ‘Stella’. Both the seed and the pollen parent are characterised by medium maturing, medium firmness, large, dark red skin coloured fruit with high susceptibility to rain induced cracking and self-compatibility.

**For further information please contact:**

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