

## *Crataegus prunifolia* Broad-leaved Cockspur Thorn



*Crataegus prunifolia ablaze with colour in autumn*

*Crataegus prunifolia* is a small, compact tree tolerant of almost all sites and with three seasons of interest makes a great plant for most locations.

It is the thorniest of the hawthorns with long sharp thorns widely spaced along the branches but not on the trunk.

Small white flowers appear in late spring, larger and later than the common Hawthorn, but still clustered along the stems.

In summer it has oval, glossy green leaves with a toothed margin. Later they change to a combination of yellow, orange and red so intense that it looks ablaze. The colour of the autumn foliage coincides with plentiful, plump red berries which provide a feast for wild birds.

*Crataegus prunifolia* is adaptable and not demanding. A good choice for coastal and urban planting with a tolerance of pollution, heat, and wind. It grows well in most soil conditions including dry and wet.

### **Plant Profile**

**Name:** *Crataegus prunifolia*

**Common Name:** Broad-leaved Cockspur Thorn

**Family:** Rosaceae

**Height:** 7-9m

**Demands:** Most soil conditions except waterlogged.  
Tolerates wide range of conditions

**Foliage:** Ovate with a serrated margin. Hard to beat for autumn colour

**Flower:** White flowers in May / June, slightly larger than common Hawthorn

**Fruit:** Red berries add to the autumn colour



*Red berries provide a feast for birds*



## *Crataegus prunifolia* Broad-leaved Cockspur Thorn

Deepdale

*Crataegus prunifolia* is very versatile and can be grown as a tree, shrub, hedge or pruned into many forms



3-4m umbrella pruned specimens



20-25cm standards in autumn



*Crataegus prunifolia* bonsai, 3m height



Broad-leaf cockspur hawthorn, field grown specimens



Autumn foliage , a spectrum from yellow to red