# ALL ABOUT CHOKECHERRIES





### WHAT ARE CHOKECHERRIES?

Chokecherries are small, dark red to purple fruits that grow on shrubs or small trees. They are part of the rose family.

## WHERE DO CHOKECHERRIES GROW?

They grow all across North America, especially in forests, meadows and near rivers.

## **HEALTH BENEFITS OF CHOKECHERRIES**

Chokecherries are great sources of Antioxidants, vitamin C and Magnesium.

Nutrition Facts Portion Size 154 g	
Amount Per Portion Calories	249
	% Daily Value *
Total Fat 2.6g	3 %
Sodium 7.7mg	0 %
Total Carbohydrate 52g	19 %
Dietary Fiber 31g	111 %
Sugar 14g	
Protein 4.7g	9 %
Calcium 92mg	7 %
Iron 1.1mg	6 %
Potassium 584mg	12 %
* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a	

nutrient in a serving of food contribute to a daily diet. 2000 calories a day is used for general

nutrition advice









- Chokecherries get their name from their bitter taste.
- Parts of the chokecherry plant are poisonous when eaten raw! The leaves, seeds and stems contain toxic quantities of hydrocyanic acid.
- Native American tribes used chokecherries for food and medicine.
- People make juice, jelly and even wildlife feed from them.
- Birds and bears love them!
- Lewis and Clark called them "wild cherries". The Mandan Tribe in North Dakota offered them as a symbol of peace.



### **CHOKECHERRIES IN SOUTH DAKOTA**

- In South Dakota Native Americans and settlers used chokecherries for food and medicine. Today, people still make jelly and syrup.
- Wild Chokecherries can be picked along roadsides in SD.
- Lewis and Clark were introduced to the wild chokecherry "wild cherry" on their expedition through NE, SD and ND.
- Chokecherries were combined with dried meat to feed the Native Americans all year.

#### TRY IT!

- Chokecherry Tea- Made with processed leaves.
- Chokecherry Syrup- a sweet, tart treat for pancakes.
- Chokecherry Jelly- Delicious PB and J option.
- Wojapi- a Native American berry sauce made with chokecherries, blueberries, huckleberries and blackberries.



