

**North Carolina Agricultural Research Service
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina**


Notice to Nurserymen of the Naming and Release of 'Ruby Falls' Redbud

The North Carolina Agricultural Research Service announces the release of the redbud cultivar 'Ruby Falls'.

'Ruby Falls' is a new and distinct cultivar of weeping redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) being released as an alternative to 'Covey' (Lavender Twist™). 'Ruby Falls' originated as a second-generation descendant from the 2001 controlled hybridization of 'Covey' x 'Forest Pansy' (both *C. canadensis*). 'Ruby Falls' was selected for its attractive purple leaf color and weeping growth habit. This combination of architecture and leaf color is unique in redbud. Retention of purple color in leaves during the growing season is similar to that of 'Forest Pansy'. 'Ruby Falls' demonstrates excellent branching. Flowering is prolific, and flower color is an attractive reddish-purple. 'Ruby Falls' has been trialed for four years in Jackson Springs, North Carolina (USDA hardiness zone 7b), and it has proven fully cold hardy in this location. Long-term trials have not been conducted in other regions, but it is anticipated that 'Ruby Falls' will be well adapted to USDA hardiness zone 6 and higher.

The name 'Ruby Falls' was chosen for this selection because of its attractive purple leaf color and weeping architecture.

A plant patent application has been filed for 'Ruby Falls', and plant patent rights will be assigned to NCSU. Propagation and production rights can be obtained from PlantHaven, Inc., Santa Barbara, California.



Director, North Carolina Agricultural Research Service

10-22-09

Date