

{from page 57}

(50) b. Sat. Oct 16/76 <rose though / spines> (Chokecherry)

old list #30 w Locust (?) "wild black cherry"

identified Pt J 6/1/75 (vide Gamut, anticipating trees)

pod Gray 879 Pàdus <pod = husk> [via Theophrastus from Padus River

(botany); Po | European Bird-Cherry] . . P. seròtina (= late-

school ripening) "Black or Rum <Rum> C" "Cerises D'Automne"

of seals Quebec ↑but use run

whales; Taylor 988 Prunus serotina Am timber tree (cultivated);

flock of elsewhere weedy . . widely planted by birds along

birds fence-rows . . w mature to 90 ft H, less usually;

lvs oblongish or narrower 2½-5½ in L. marginal teeth incurved; flwrs white [yellow centers.] fragrant

sometimes unpleasantly about ½-¾" W. hanging

in long finger-shaped clusters, blooming long

after leaves expand [in Pt. J. late Sept-Oct]; fruit

round ½" diameter, black (finally), sour. Eastern

N.A. hardy, juice of wilted foliage poisonous.

P. Virginiana shrub-like counterpart of P. Serotina

rarely ever 10 ft H or tree-like 20 ft H. Lvs divaricate

marginal. fruit purple-black. Otherwise like serotina

poisonous lvs etc

sear [line 2 read:]

1 Prune us serried teen ^ serious? ? / ? ease autumn
sear eased-rum rum-wild black cherry

2 autumn ^ wild black rum cherry

3 old pod-husk fence birds stock → [stock

4 white aster-rays clouds spinet locust white

5 roses' kind late-ripe dint-incurved leaves

spreads 6 eiga cicala /leap#s go-go-go early-waking

(curve) 7 early-evening can-can-can distance cricket mutes * w. Carlyle

8 squirrel mouth-dart spread twig twigs past + pres

notes: 11/1/75 lion may lamb (i. verb); rain drowns gold bares autumn petals

autumn <fall?> dart mouth twig to twig - squirrel spread eagle (*)

Fabre ((*)cigale) cri-cri fiddle stick <sun drunk> silent to cloud + chill (over)

* * *

old list #30

(p 58

(50) [cont] begun Sat Oct 16/76 (Chokecherry)

another species can! can! . . waking later stops ea. evening
. . harvest s'go 's'go 's'go . . It. cricket, gri-ii . . (*)
gri-i-i <least / noise / disturbs> affecting distance mutes (finger tip) a glass
tumbler's ring - study the open country

1/21/76 kinless . . notes for future

Carlyle - Past + Present softest cloud-water . . firehorses <&> windhorses

1/23/76 Ptolemy Tetrabiblos I 113 I 3, 13 (L. <p> 27) sídēron (*) / . . magnâtis

Rums - (Poems - The Grand Question Debated: no
company comes | but a rabble of tenants, and
rusty dull rums

Spinet - small wood . . where briers + thorns grow; (Century)

Ben Jonson, The Satyr

Second draft b Wed Oct 20/76

lodged in a little

f. Th.-Fri Oct 22/76

spinet . . head

1

above top

2 ease autumn wild black cherry*

of the

3

wood

4 <clouds?*> white aster-rays clouds spinet-locust flowers <white>

5

6

7

8

* ital added Oct 22/76

possessive ' deleted



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Edited and transcribed by Jeffrey Twitchell-Waas.}

Sources

Taylor, *Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening*, **Prunus**

Gray, *Gray's Manual of Botany*, **Rosaceae** (Rose Family) > **Prunus** (Plum, Cherry, etc.) > **P. Pàdus**
and **Pàdus seròtina** (879)

Century Dictionary (CD), ***dint**, **rum**, **spinet**,

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, **pod**

Ptolemy, *Tetrabiblos* I. 3. 13 (in Loeb edition of Manetho)

Thomas Carlyle, *Past and Present*

J. H. Fabre, *The Social Life in the Insect World*, Chapters II & XI

Textual note

line 6: 6 words

line 1: **Prune us serried teen sear**
 line 2: **ease autumn wild black cherry**
 line 3: **old pod-husk fence birds stock**
 line 4: **clouds white aster-rays spinet-locust white**
 line 5: **roses' kind late-ripe dint-incurved leaves**
 line 6: **cicala leap 's go-go-go early waking**
 line 7: **early-evening can-can-can distance cricket mutes**
 line 8: **squirrel mouth-dart spread twig twigs**

Oct 16-22/76
 for Paul's 33 birthday

{October 22}

line 1: **Prune us serried teen sear**

Taylor, **Prunus** > **P. serotina**. Wild black cherry; also called choke cherry. An important American timber tree in parts of its range, elsewhere very weedy and widely planted by birds along fence-rows. In maturity, and in the forest, up to 90 ft. high, less as usually seen. Leaves oblongish, or narrower, 2½-5½ in. long, its numerous marginal teeth incurved. Flowers white, fragrant, sometimes unpleasantly so, about ½ in. wide, in long, hanging, finger-shaped clusters, blooming long after the leaves expand. Fruit round, about ½ in. wide, in long, hanging, finger-shaped clusters, blooming long after the leaves expand. Fruit round, about ½ in. in diameter, ultimately black, sour. Throughout eastern N.A. and hardy everywhere. The juice of its wilted foliage is dangerously poisonous.

Prune us serried teen > *Prunus serotina*

Gray, **FAM. 82 ROSACEAE** (Rose Family) > **25. Prunus** L. PLUM, CHERRY, etc. > **19. Pàdus seròtina** Ehrh. (late-ripening), BLACK or RUM-C., CERISES D'AUTOMNE (Que.) (879).

sear / ease autumn < Cerises d'Automne

line 2: **ease autumn wild black cherry**

See Gray line 1.

See Taylor line 1.

line 3: **old pod-husk fence birds stock**

Webster's Dictionary, **pod**, *n.*, A number of animals clustered together; a school, as of seals and whales; of birds, a flock.

pod, *n.*, [Origin uncert.] *Bot.* Any dry dehiscent seed vessel; specif., a legume, as of the pea or bean.

Gray, **FAM. 82 ROSACEAE** (Rose Family) {see above line 1} > **25. Prunus** > Subgen. IV. PÀDUS (Moench) Koehe (CHERRY) > **P. PÀDUS** L. (name used by Theophrastus, from *Padus*, the River Po), European Bird-C. {...}(879).

pod-husk < *Padus*

See Taylor line 1.

line 4: **clouds white aster-rays spinet-locust white**

Thomas Carlyle, *Past and Present*, III, Chap. XV: '{...}' —yet never, in any country, saw I operative men worse washed, and, in a climate drenched with the softest cloud-water, such a scarcity of baths!' (201).

{LZ may be deliberately misreading *sídēron* (σίδηρον) meaning *iron*, as cognate with *sidereal* > **aster**. See LZ notes above from Polemy, *Tebrabiblos* I. 3. 13.}

CD, **spinet**¹, n. [< L. *spinctum*, a thicket of thorns, < *spina*, a thorn, spine: see *spine*.] A small wood or place where briars and thorns grow; a spinney.

A satyr, lodged in a little *spinet*, by which her majesty and the Prince were to come, . . . advanced his head above the top of the wood. B. *Jonson*, *The Satyr*.

line 5: **roses' kind late-ripe dint-incurved leaves**

See Gray line 1.

*CD, **dint**, n. {...} **2.** A mark made by a blow or by pressure on a surface: now *dent*.—**3.** Force; power: now chiefly in the phrase *by dint of*: as, *by dint of* argument.

See Taylor line 1.

Taylor, **Prunus** {see line 1} > **P. virginiana**. Choke cherry. A shrub-like counterpart of *P. serotina*, rarely over 10 ft. high, still more rarely tree-like and 20 ft. high. The simplest way to distinguish its foliage from *P. serotina* is by the divaricate marginal teeth, which in *P. serotina* are incurved.

line 6: **cicala leap 's go-go-go early waking**

J. H. Fabre, *The Social Life in the Insect World*, Chap. II, “The Song of the Cigale” {cicada}: It often happens, especially during the hours of the sultry afternoons, that the insect, intoxicated with sunlight, shortens and even suppresses the intervals of silence. The song is then continuous, but always with an alternation of crescendo and diminuendo. The first notes are heard about seven or eight o'clock in the morning, and the orchestra ceases only when the twilight fails, about eight o'clock at night. The concert lasts a whole round of the clock. But if the sky is grey and the wind chilly the Cigale is silent.

The second species, only half the size of the common Cigale, is known in Provence as the *Cacan*; the name being a fairly exact imitation of the sound emitted by the insect. This is the Cigale of the flowering ash, far more alert and far more suspicious than the common species. Its harsh, loud song consist of a series of cries—can! can! can! can!—with no intervals of silence subdividing the poem into stanzas. {...} This painful concert, which is a real torment, offers only one compensation: the Cigale of the flowering ash does not begin his song so early as the common Cigale, and does not sing so late in the evening. {...}

My neighbours the peasants say that at harvest-time the Cigale sings to them: Sego, sego, sego! (Reap, reap, reap!) to encourage them in their work (36-37, 40).

line 7: **early-evening can-can-can distance cricket mutes**

See Fabre line 6.

Fabre, Chap. XI, “The Italian Cricket”: To produce the loud, open sounds the wing-covers are fully lifted; to produce the muted, muffled notes they are lowered. {...} The gentle touch of a finger-tip muffles the sharp, loud ringing of a glass tumbler of ‘musical-glass’ and changes it into a veiled, indefinite sound which seems to come from a distance. The White Cricket knows this secret of acoustics. It misleads those that seek it by pressing the edge of its vibrating membranes to the soft flesh of its abdomen. {...}

The Field-Cricket and its relatives also vary the volume of their song by raising or lowering the elytra so as to enclose the abdomen in a varying degree, but none of them can obtain by this method results so deceptive as those produced by the Italian Cricket (106).

line 8: **squirrel mouth-dart spread twig twigs**

{This line is the result of a number of transformative rescriptions, which originate in the “A”-22 & -23 notebook: “2/17/73 wintering young squirrels <dart mouth> spread eagle ~~joyfully~~ (in) relays from twig to twig (branch + twigs)” (p. 153) > NBk: “autumn / fall’s dart mouth from twig to twig, young / squirrel’s spreadeagle” (p. 4) > “fall’s <autumn> dart mouth from twig to twigg / young squirrel’s spread eagle” (pg. 10B & 10C)}.