



unidentified heirloom

Posted by [Phyllis Weyand](#)

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[Phyllis Weyand](#)

[unidentified heirloom](#)

February 02, 2014 02:35AM

Registered: 9 years ago

Posts: 1

I haven't been able to find listed anywhere a sour cherry that sounds like the type I grew up with in the 1950's, of which there were several at that time leftover from my grandparents' day. I've come back to live on the family farm, and all that remains of the cherries is one tree, which is a half-mile hike over to another part of the farm. I found a couple of volunteer seedlings beside the tree two years ago, which I promptly moved closer to where I can keep my eye on them.

The blossoms/cherries grow in pairs, and ripen two weeks earlier than the Montmorencies that people seem to like to grow (and three of which I planted out of ignorance). The heirloom berries are scarlet red, with a soft and juicy, yellow-tinted flesh. I much prefer this heirloom to Montmorency. I'm not a sweet tooth, and have always liked to eat sour cherries straight from the tree (and slightly unripe, before the birds get them). Unfortunately, Montmorencies have a bitter element to them (not to be confused with sour) that I don't care for. This bitterness goes away when cooked, but leaves a plummy, or almondy flavor that I don't care for either. (OK, so I'm a picky eater.) In contrast, the heirloom cherry's flavor has (to me) a pleasantly clean, tart flavor--one that defines cherry-ness in much the same way that, for me, Jonathan defines apple-ness.

Any ideas what this cherry might be?

Gobblers Knob

5a, almost always windy, Illinois corn country

Fruit hobbyist favoring tart flavors.

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[Charles DeVier](#)

[Re: unidentified heirloom](#)

November 21, 2023 04:14AM

Registered: 1 year ago

Posts: 7

I know this is an old thread, but...

We are growing some Juliet Bush cherries that are very good. They are slightly larger than Montmorency, a little sweeter and a better pit to flesh ratio. And you don't need a ladder to pick them. I now have about a dozen bushes growing. I have eaten Montmorency all my life but I now like Juliet better.

There are several other varieties of bush cherries related - Romeo, Carmine Jewel, more

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