

Name _____



EDIBLE WILD PLANTS - Review & More

Review Fact Sheet: Edible Wild Plants Gathered by the Osage

Among the Osage, what group did the farming and gathering of plants? **women**

Tell four areas of important botanical knowledge of the Osage women:

How to identify edible plants what areas to look for them in

How to prepare & store them when to harvest them

Q: How do we know what foods the very early Osage people ate?

- Oral histories and interviews of the Osage people
- Work of **ethnobotanists**, sometimes in archaeological excavations involving physical and chemical analysis of plants remains

Match the following terms: **botany** **ethnobotany**

ethnobotany scientific study of the traditional knowledge and customs of a people concerning plants and their medical, religious, and other uses.

botany scientific study of plants, including their physiology, structure, genetics, ecology, distribution, classification, and economic importance

Q: How do scientists name plants?

Common names of plants are different around the world as they are spoken in different languages, and may even change from region to region within a country that just speaks one language.

To avoid confusion and make sure we know exactly what type of plant we are talking about, we use **SCIENTIFIC NAMES** - which are the same for everyone around the world.

These names come from **Latin** and have two words - like our first and last names. The "**genus**" is the larger of the two groups and similar to the use of a last name like "Smith," while the **species** is more specific, like an individual's first name, such as "Maria."

However, unlike people's names, for plants we put the Genus first and the species last - written as follows:

For Red Oak - the scientific name is: *Quercus rubra* (Oak red)

- The **genus (group of related plants)** is listed first and is always capitalized.
- The **species (or one specific type)** follows the genus name in lowercase.
- The entire Latin plant name is **italicized or underlined**

For **Prickly Pear Cactus**: *Opuntia humifusa*

What is the common name? Prickly Pear Cactus

In the scientific name, which name is the genus? *Opuntia*

Which name is the species? *Humifusa*

For **Yonkapins**: *Nelumbo lutea*

What is the common name? **Yonkapins**

In the scientific name, what is *Nelumbo*? **The genus**

What is *lutea*? **The species**

What is the language used for these and all other scientific names? **Latin**

Circle the scientific name below (for pecans) which is written correctly:

Carya illinoensis *Carya illinoensis (in italics)*

See “Plant - Research Outline”

Complete outlines for three plants from **Edible Wild Plants Gathered by the Osage - FACT SHEET**